モーニング
KC1983

BILLY BAT 2

浦沢直樹

ストーリー共同制作
長崎尚志

講談社

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モーニング
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BILLY BAT

ビリーバット

2

浦沢直樹

+ストーリー共同制作

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講談社

Two thousand years ago, some place unknown.
A barefooted man walks with a burden on his shoulders.
Hit by rocks thrown by the delirious crowd,
The man is covered in blood.
And one boy's eyes are glued to the sight.

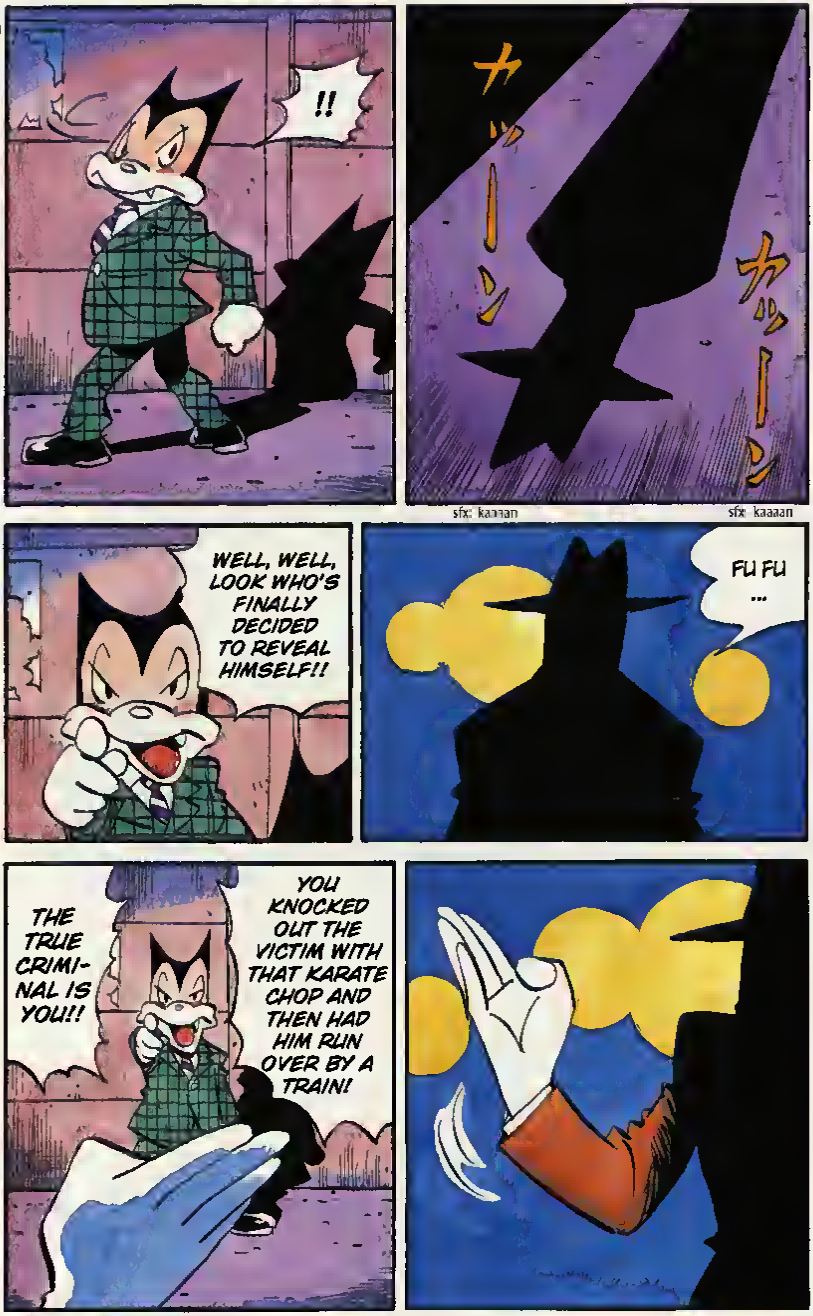
Naoki Urasawa + Takashi Nagasaki Presents

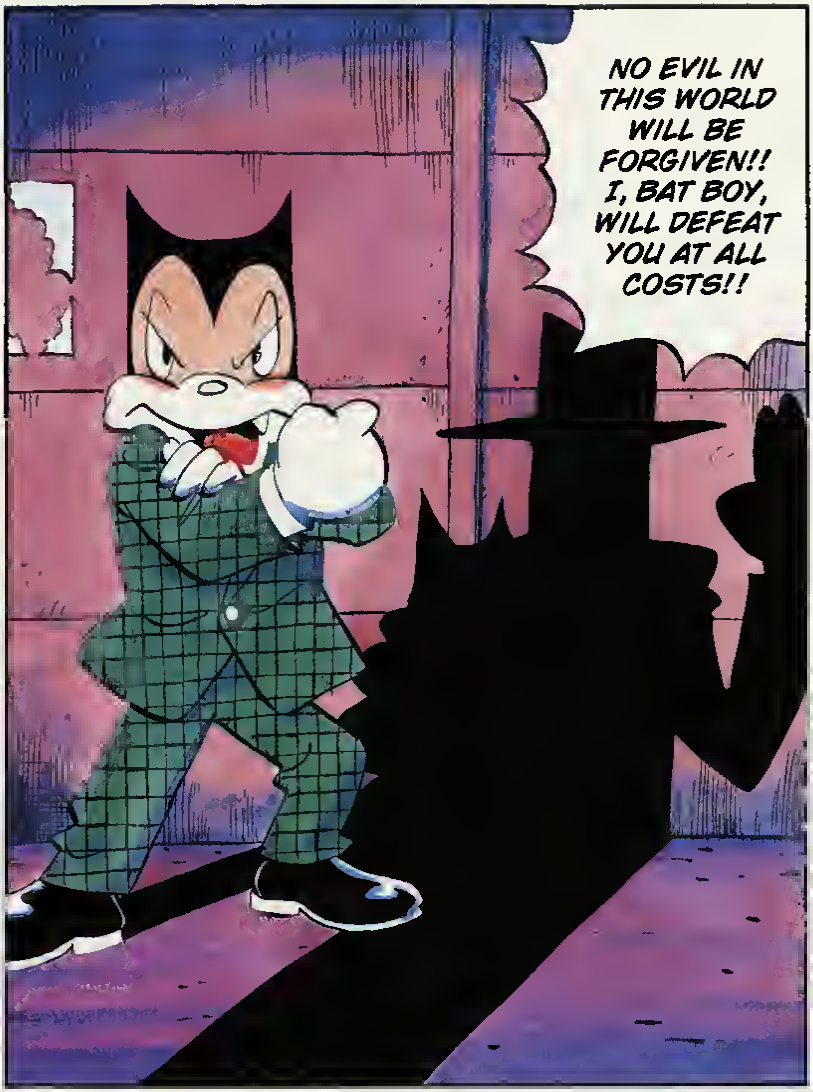
2

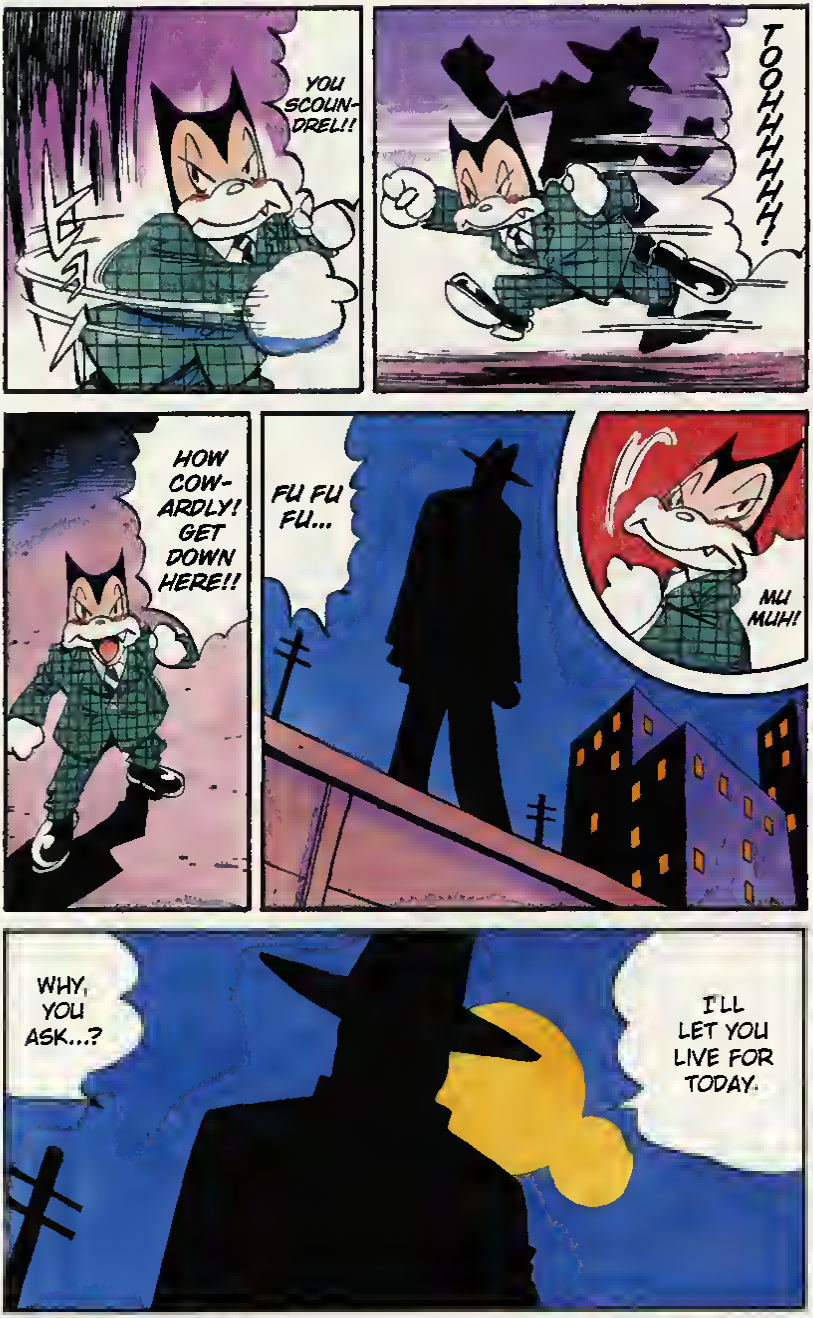
浦沢直樹

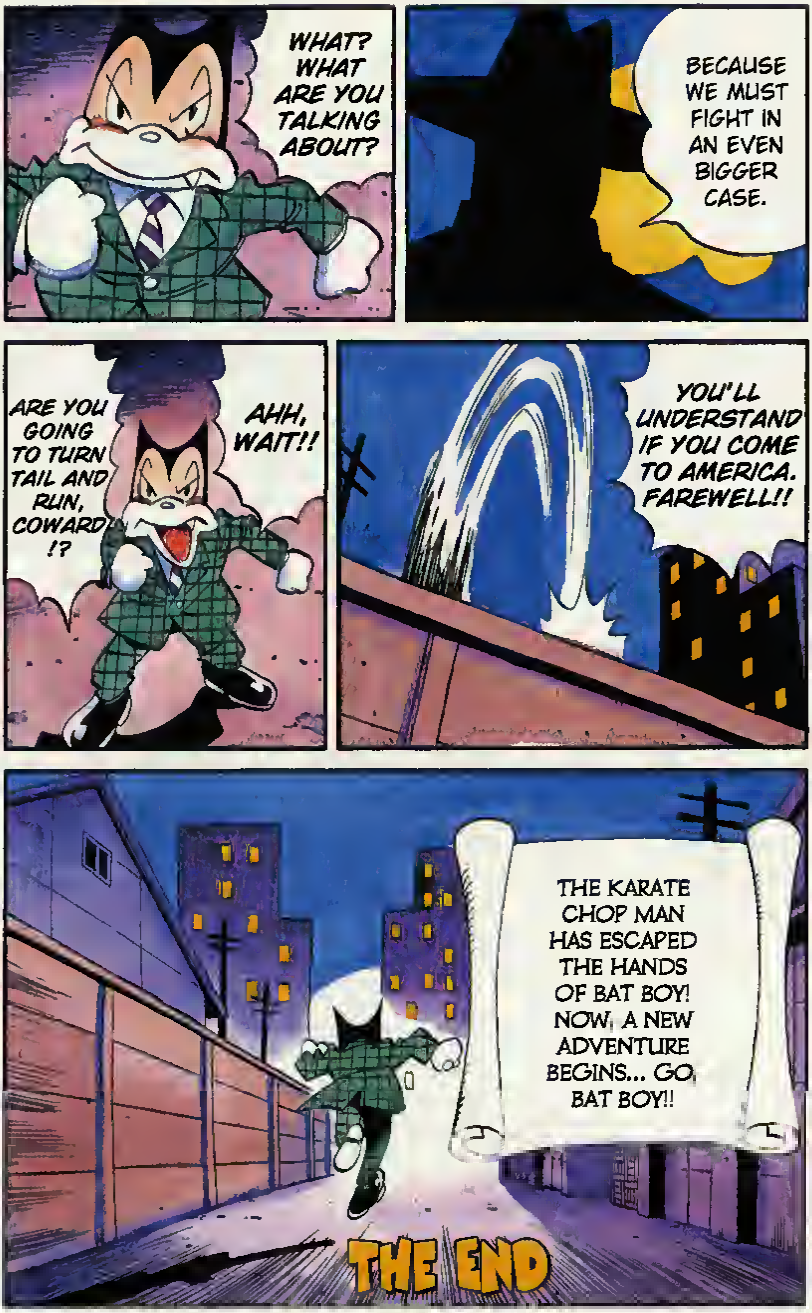
＋ストーリー共同制作

長崎尚志


!!
カッーン
カッーン
sfx: kaaaan
sfx: kaaaan
WELL, WELL, LOOK WHO'S FINALLY DECIDED TO REVEAL HIMSELF!!
FU FU ...
THE TRUE CRIMINAL IS YOU!!
YOU KNOCKED OUT THE VICTIM WITH THAT KARATE CHOP AND THEN HAD HIM RUN OVER BY A TRAIN!


NO EVIL IN THIS WORLD WILL BE FORGIVEN!! I, BAT BOY, WILL DEFEAT YOU AT ALL COSTS!!


YOU SCOUNDREL!!
TOOHHHHH!
HOW COWARDLY! GET DOWN HERE!!
FU FU FU...
MU MUH!
WHY, YOU ASK...?
I'LL LET YOU LIVE FOR TODAY.

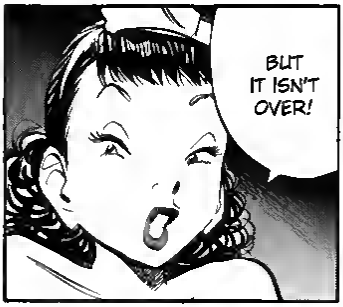

WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
BECAUSE WE MUST FIGHT IN AN EVEN BIGGER CASE.
ARE YOU GOING TO TURN TAIL AND RUN, COWARD!?
AHH, WAIT!!
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF YOU COME TO AMERICA. FAREWELL!!
THE KARATE CHOP MAN HAS ESCAPED THE HANDS OF BAT BOY! NOW, A NEW ADVENTURE BEGINS... GO, BAT BOY!!
THE END

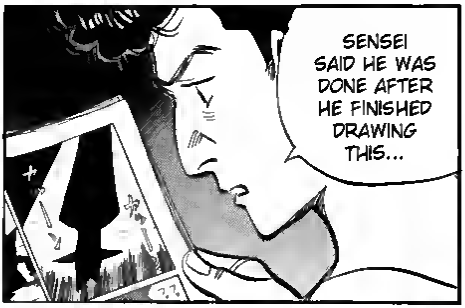
WHAAT, IT'S NOT OVER YET...
AH...
DON'T READ ZOFUU-SENSEI'S MANGA WITHOUT MY PERMISSION!!
MMM...
IT WAS JUST SITTING OVER THERE, THOUGH...
THIS IS DANGER-OUS!!
HOW IS IT DAN-GEROUS ...?
AH...
WELL...

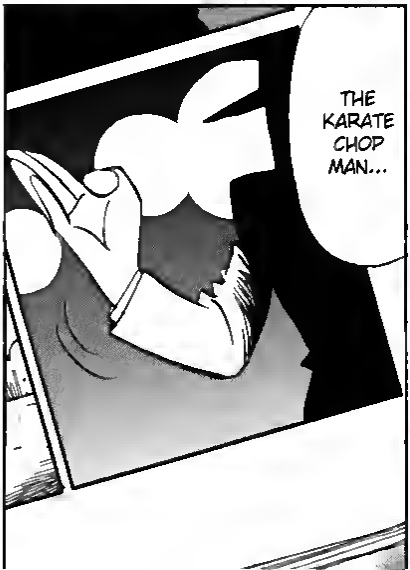
I ALREADY READ IT ALL, THOUGH.
.....

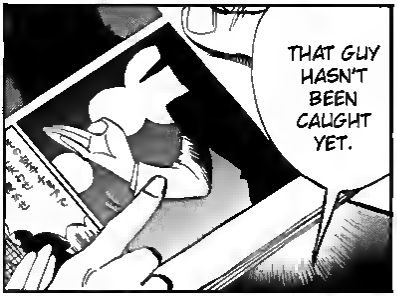
IT'D JUST BE BETTER IF YOU DIDN'T READ IT ...
IT'S BETTER IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW...

WHERE'S THE NEXT PART?
THERE IS NONE.


BUT IT ISN'T OVER!


SENSEI SAID HE WAS DONE AFTER HE FINISHED DRAWING THIS...

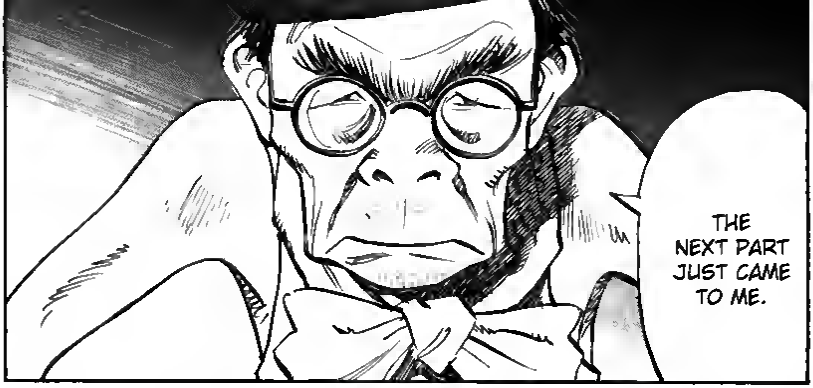

THE KARATE CHOP MAN...

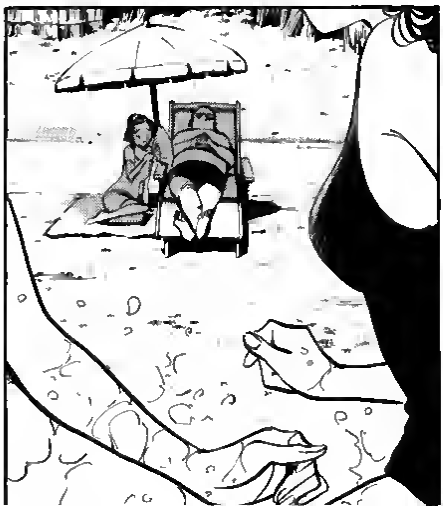

THAT GUY HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT YET.

"YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF YOU COME TO AMERICA," HUH...?
DON'T WORRY, I'LL HIDE YOU.
H... HEY!
NO, I WON'T LET YOU GO!

TODAY'S GONNA BE ANOTHER HOT ONE ...
min min min
HEY, POPS, WHAT KIND IS YOUR FAVORITE?
SHAVED ICE IS PRETTY MUCH THE ONLY THING YOU CAN EAT ON DAYS LIKE THIS...
UJI KINTOKI STYLE.
AH, SO HE FINALLY SPEAKS ...
YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ME A THING ABOUT YOUR NAME, WHERE YOU LIVE, OR YOUR AGE...
YOU KNOW I CAN'T JUST WRITE THAT YOU LIKE UJI KINTOKI SHAVED ICE ON THIS DOSSIER HERE.
C'MON, JUST OUT WITH IT ALREADY.
THEN MAYBE WE CAN GO GET SOME NICE COLD SHAVED ICE TOGETHER.

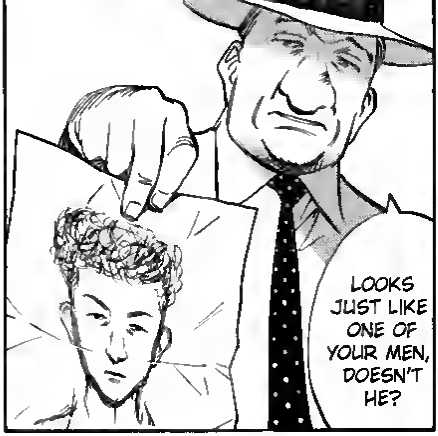
IT WAS A REALLY BAD MOVE, YOU KNOW... THAT YOKOSUKA MANSION IS BEING USED BY AN OFFICER FROM THE US RIGHT NOW.
WHY DID YOU DO IT?
DRAWING GRAFFITI ON THE SIDE OF THE WALL LIKE THAT ...
HUH?
IT ISN'T OVER...
JUST WHAT'S WITH THAT BAT, ANYWAY?


THE NEXT PART JUST CAME TO ME.

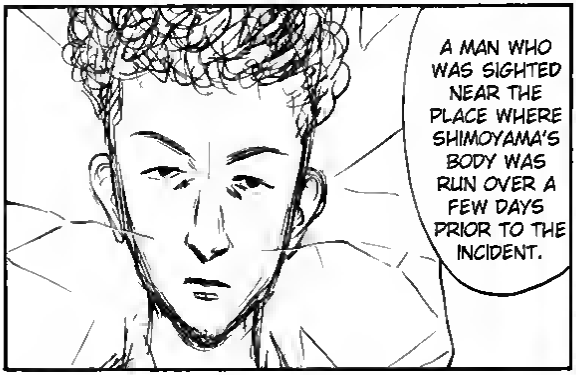


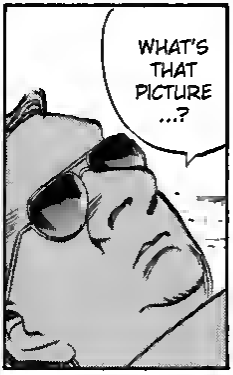
PRETTY NICE POSITION YOU HAVE THERE.
ZA!
IT'S DIFFICULT FOR MEN WHO DON'T EVEN INTRODUCE THEMSELVES TO BE TRANSFERRED TO OUR BRANCH, MR. SMITH.
BRINGING A GEISHA GIRL WITH YOU TO THE BEACH TO GO SWIMMING ...
WELL, IF I WAS TRANSFERRED, I'D PROBABLY END UP WITH A DIFFERENT NAME, NOW WOULDN'T I?
CAPTAIN FINNEY.
MAKES ME WANT TO REQUEST A TRANSFER TO GHQ MYSELF.
DEALS WITH A CORPSE WITH ITS TORSO, LEFT ARM, HEAD, AND BOTH LEGS REMOVED...
YEP. THE ONLY TOPIC I'VE BEEN HEARING ON THESE SWELTERING DAYS...
STILL INVESTIGATING THE SHIMOYAMA CASE?

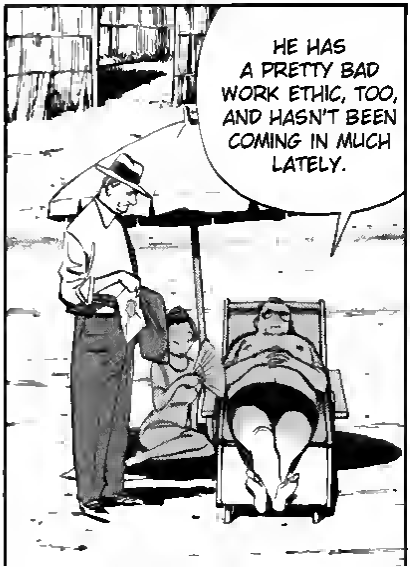
KU KU KU... IF THIS GIRL COULD SPEAK ENGLISH, SHE'D PROBABLY HAVE FAINTED BY NOW.
AND ALL THE BLOOD SUCKED RIGHT OUT OF IT.
...SO, WHAT IS IT? SUICIDE? HOMICIDE?
I DUNNO ...
THE ONLY THING I CAN SAY FOR SURE...
WHICH DO YOU THINK IT WAS?
THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE'S BEEN IN DISAGREE-MENT ABOUT LATELY.
IS THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE REALLY EXCITED TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO JAPAN NEXT.

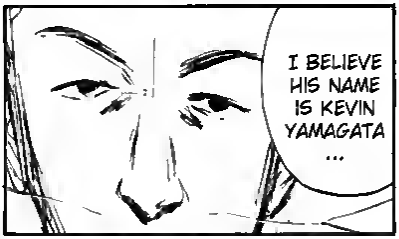

LOOKS JUST LIKE ONE OF YOUR MEN, DOESN'T HE?

ほぅ…


A MAN WHO WAS SIGHTED NEAR THE PLACE WHERE SHIMOYAMA'S BODY WAS RUN OVER A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO THE INCIDENT.


WHAT'S THAT PICTURE ...?

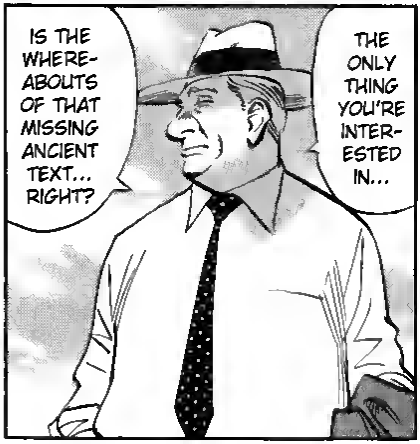

HE HAS A PRETTY BAD WORK ETHIC, TOO, AND HASN'T BEEN COMING IN MUCH LATELY.

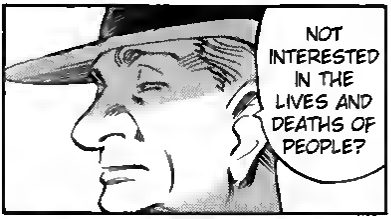

I BELIEVE HIS NAME IS KEVIN YAMAGATA ...

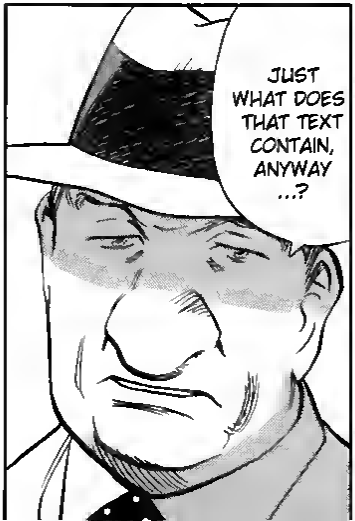
HE JUST GOT HERE, SO I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HIM.

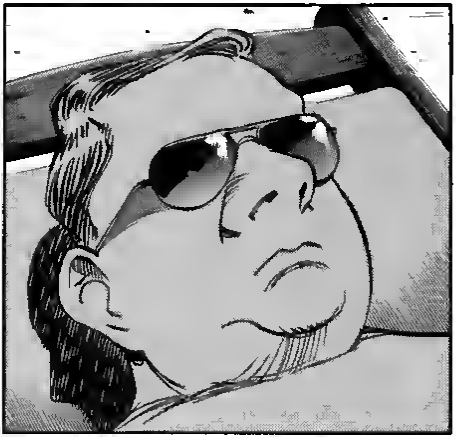
IF HE'S STILL ALIVE, THAT IS.
HE IS TO BE PUNISHED SEVERELY ...

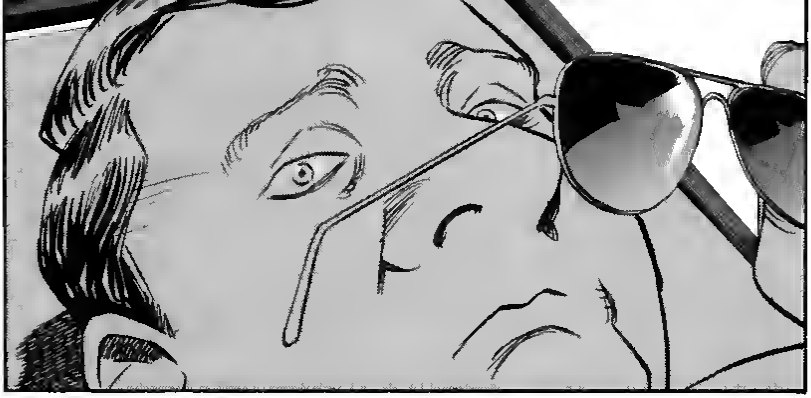
YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE HE WENT EITHER, DO YOU?
HOW ABOUT CHARLIE ISHI-ZUKA?

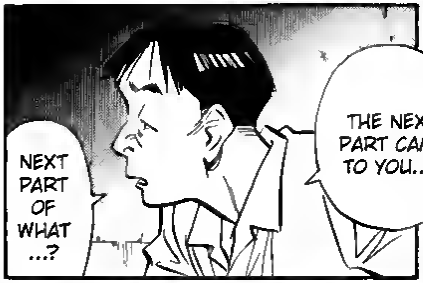

IS THE WHERE-ABOUTS OF THAT MISSING ANCIENT TEXT... RIGHT?
THE ONLY THING YOU'RE INTER-ESTED IN...


NOT INTERESTED IN THE LIVES AND DEATHS OF PEOPLE?


JUST WHAT DOES THAT TEXT CONTAIN, ANYWAY ...?






NEXT PART OF WHAT ...?
THE NEXT PART CAME TO YOU...?

取調室

I CAN'T TELL YOU.

SILENCE AGAIN, HUH?

I'M NOT REALLY ALLOWED TO GIVE YOU A PEN, THOUGH.
DRAW... FINE, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A SHOT, THEN?
I MUST DRAW IT...
IT WAS SO SHARP AND CLEAR, AND THEN ... AHHH, IT'S ALL GONE!!
THE IMAGE DISAP-PEARED !!
WH... WHAT?
AHHH, IT'S NO GOOD!!

MY PEN SPEED IS JUST TOO SLOW!!
I FINISHED DRAWING THE LAST PART ONLY A LITTLE BIT BEFORE THE INCIDENT OCCURRED, AFTER ALL!!
NO GOOD, NO GOOD, I'M NO GOOD!!
.....?
.....?
HE ...?
HE MIGHT BE THE ONLY HOPE FOR THIS
THEM ...?
THE ONLY ONE ABLE TO STOP THEM...?

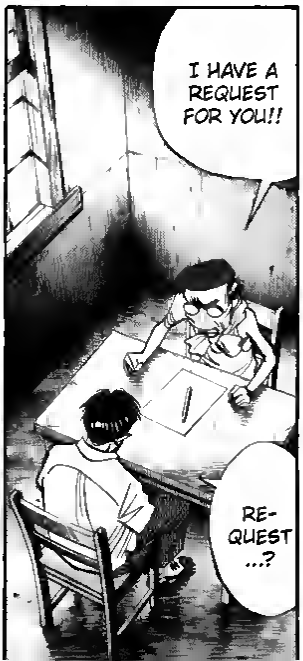
WHAT, ARE THERE SOME DEMONS OUT THERE OR SOMETHING?
THE ONES ATTEMPTING TO MANIPULATE HISTORY...
KINJI-KUN...
I THINK IT WAS ...
HUMANS INVENTED LIGHT...
KINJI ...?
OR SO THEY THOUGHT. IN TRUTH, THOUGH...
THEREFORE CONQUERING THEIR FEAR OVER THE DARK.
HUH?

THEY JUST ALLOWED THE DARK-NESS TO GROW EVEN THICKER ...
THAT ANCIENT TEXT...
IS DARK-NESS.
DARK-NESS ...?
YOU COULD CALL IT A MISSING PIECE.
THAT'S WHY I'M SEARCHING FOR IT.

THE DARKNESS OF HISTORY...
IT IS NECESSARY TO US.

HELP ME SEARCH FOR A MAN NAMED KINJI.

HE'S A SECOND-GENERATION JAPANESE MANGA ARTIST WORKING FOR THE OCCUPYING FORCES!!
UHH... JUST KNOWING HIS FIRST NAME ALONE WON'T HELP US MUCH.


I HAVE A REQUEST FOR YOU!!
RE-QUEST ...?

TELL HIM THAT HE MUST GO TO AMERICA!!
SECOND-GENERATION...? OCCUPYING FORCES...? MANGA ARTIST...?
AND THAT HE IS THE ONLY ONE LEFT WHO IS ABLE TO STOP THIS!!
OHH, US ARMY BOOTS!!
LOOK ...!
YOU CAN'T GO ON WALKING AROUND IN THOSE SANDALS FOREVER.

AH, THEY FIT PERFECTLY.
HOW DID YOU GET THEM?
THEY BELONGED TO A CUSTOMER ...
EH... BUT THEN WHAT WILL HE DO ABOUT HIS OWN SHOES?
HE CAN JUST STEAL A NEW PAIR FROM SOMEONE ELSE.
STEAL, HUH...?
KINDA REMINDS ME OF THAT BAT OF OURS...
STOP
止れ
A AVE
STOP MUMBLING ALREADY, I'M HUUUUNGRY!
AH... YEAH!

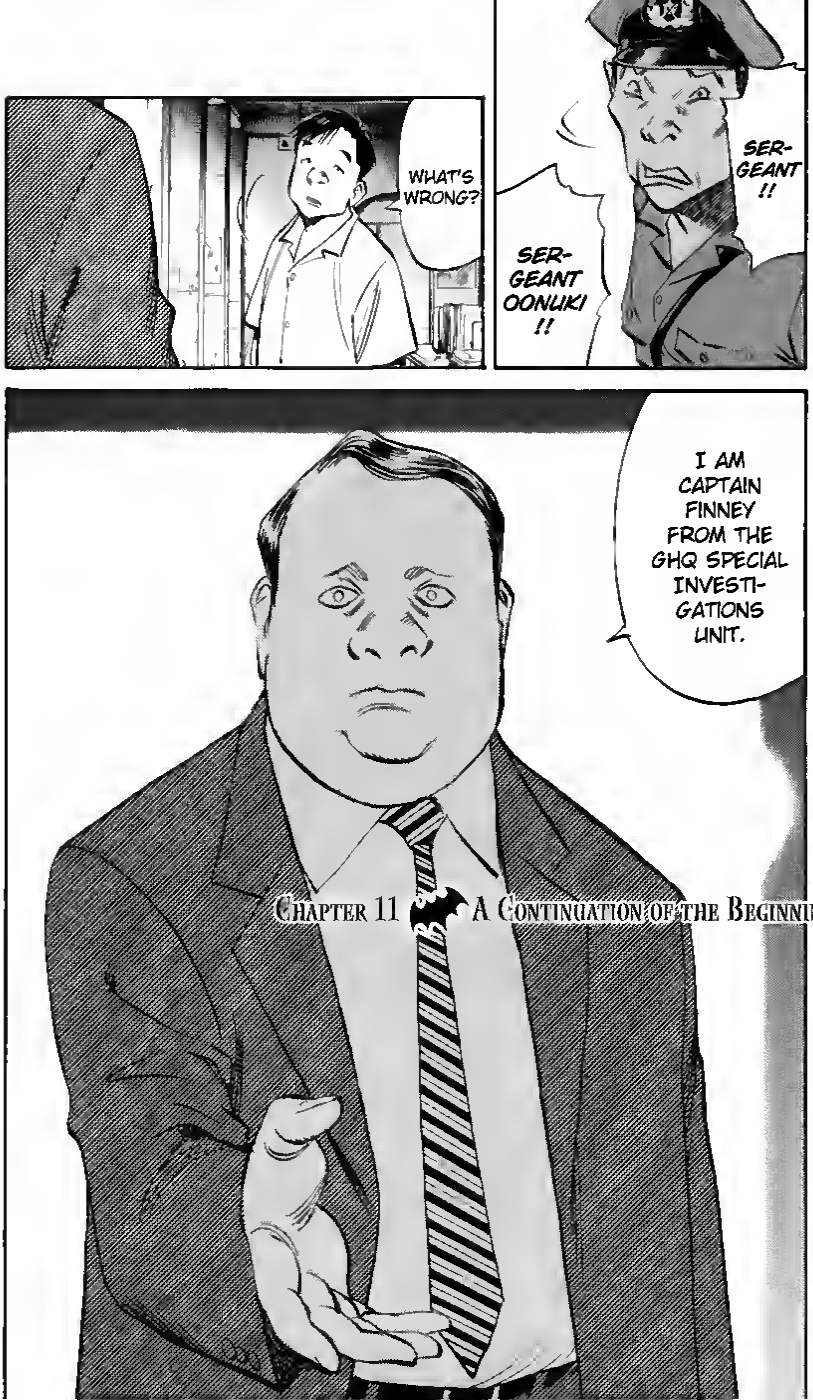
AN AUTO-GRAPH

WHAT IS THAT?

AUTO-GRAPH?

APPARENTLY, THAT OLD GUY'S A MANGAKA

HEH! DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVED HIM, SERGEANT OONUKI?
IT'LL FETCH A HIGH PRICE NOW, SO TAKE IT, HE SAID.
ALRIGHT, BUT I DON'T WANNA HEAR ANY COMPLAINTS WHEN IT NETS ME A FORTUNE!
AW, IF I TAKE IT HOME, IT'LL JUST END UP AS TOILET PAPER.
WANT IT?
Do you speak English?
AHHHH, JA... JASUTO MOOMEN-TO!!
AHHHH... HAU... HAU, HAU DUU YUU DUU...



Chapter 11 A Continuation of the Beginning

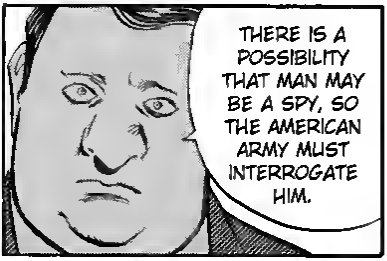
AND WHAT DOES THAT SPECIAL WHATEVER WANT WITH US?
I HEARD THE MAN WHO DREW GRAFFITI ON THE OFFICER'S MANSION IN YOKOSUKA WAS BEING HELD HERE.
OH, YOU CAN SPEAK JAPANESE?
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO HAND HIM OVER TO US.
SO WHAT ...?
IT'S JUST GRAFFITI. THERE'S NO REASON TO HAND HIM OVER TO THE AMERICANS.
IT'S GRAFFITI THAT WAS DONE ON AN AMERICAN OFFICER'S HOME.
IT'S NOT JUST ANY GRAFFITI.
?
HAHA ...

REGARDLESS OF WHERE IT'S WRITTEN, GRAFFITI IS GRAFFITI.
TO WHERE?
BESIDES, I'VE ALREADY LET HIM OUT.
fu sha
.....
MANGA-KA?
WHAT'S HIS NAME ...?
TO THIS WORLD... HE HAS NO PRESENT ADDRESS, SO WHO KNOWS WHERE HE WENT...
WHY ARE YOU SO INSISTENT ON GETTING INFORMATION ABOUT A MERE MANGAKA WHO DECIDED TO DRAW SOME GRAFFITI?

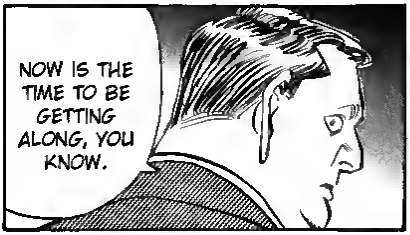
HE MAY BE A SPY.
ANYWAY, THE POINT IS...

FINE... I'LL TALK IT OVER WITH MY SUPERIORS.

HUH?

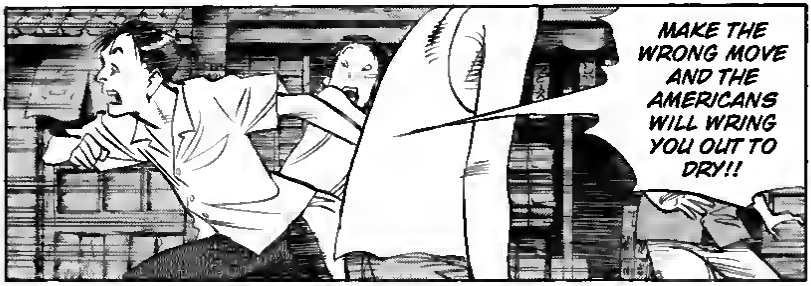

THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT MAN MAY BE A SPY, SO THE AMERICAN ARMY MUST INTERROGATE HIM.

DO YOU HATE THE AMERI-CANS?


NOW IS THE TIME TO BE GETTING ALONG, YOU KNOW.

Haa
Haa

Haa
Haa
WHERE DID YOU GO, OLD MAN!?

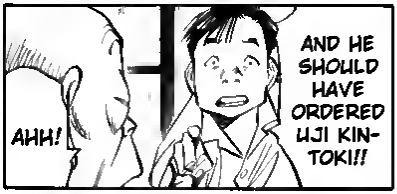

MAKE THE WRONG MOVE AND THE AMERICANS WILL WRING YOU OUT TO DRY!!

LIM, EXCUSE ME, I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING ...
DID AN OLD MAN STOP HERE EARLIER?

氷

氷
ジュース
ラムネ

A GUY WITH BOTTLE-CAP GLASSES AND A TOWEL AROUND HIS NECK..
HUH?


AHH!
AND HE SHOULD HAVE ORDERED UJI KINTOKI!!

HEY KID, DID AN OLD MAN WEARING BOTTLECAP GLASSES COME THIS WAY...?
YUP.
...AND? WHICH WAY'D HE GO?
MITAKA ...?
NEXT IS MITAKA, MITAKA...
?
WHITE CHALK ...?
WAHH!!
THEN AFTER THAT IS MATSUKAWA, FUKUSHIMA ...
MATSU-KAWA ...?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...?

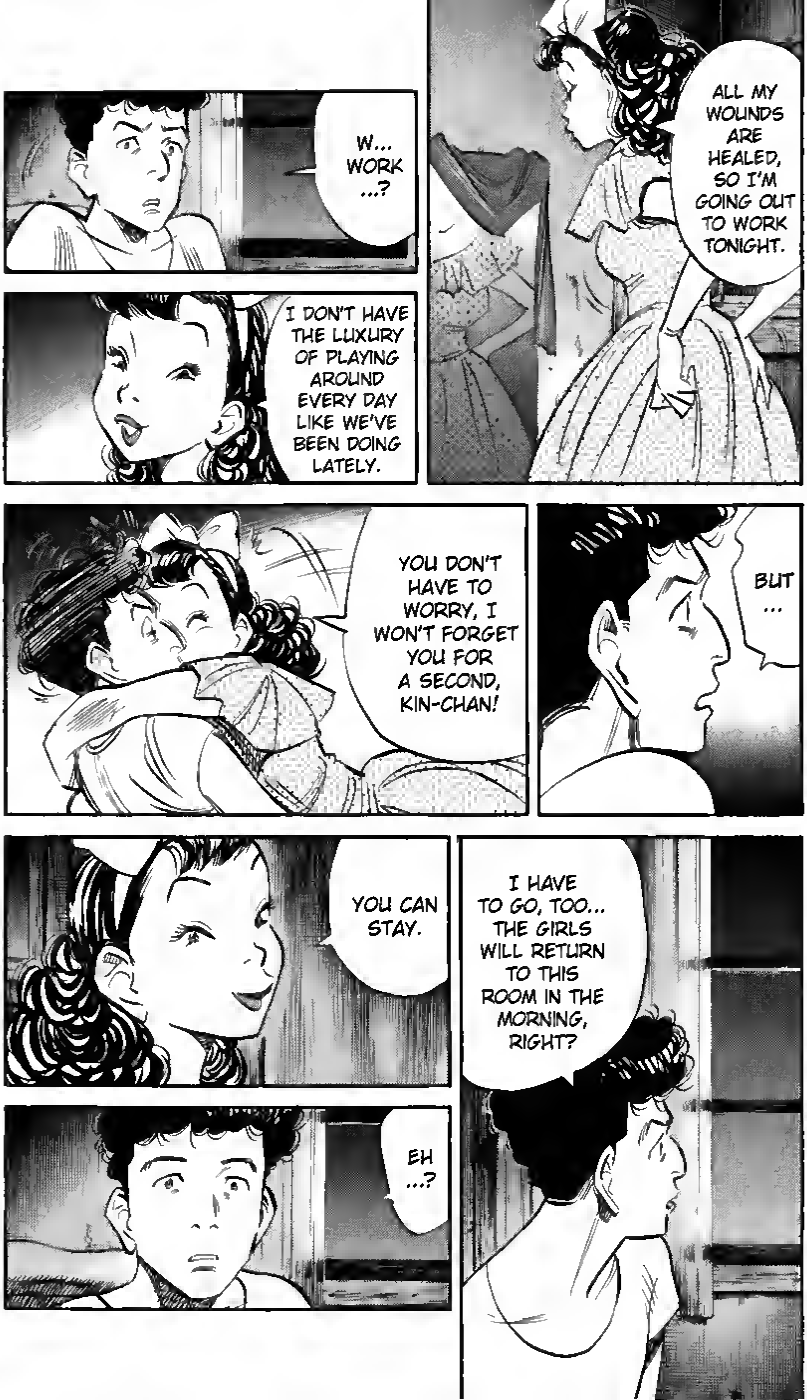
WAWA WAHHH !!

...300,000 UNION WORKERS FIRED FROM THE NATIONAL RAILROAD COMPANY DUE TO SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES...
D... DID THE OLD MAN DRAW ALL THIS JUST NOW?
YUP.
AND...
SINCE EVERYONE GOT FIRED, JAPAN'S GONNA GET POOR AGAIN...
AND ...?
YUP.
DID THE OLD MAN SAY THAT?
AND ANOTHER WAR WILL HAPPEN AGAIN OVERSEAS!!
THAT SOMEONE'S GONNA GET REALLY RICH!!

THE NEXT PART JUST CAME TO ME!!
I MUST DRAW IT!!
DID THE OLD MAN SAY THAT?
YUP.
THE JAPANESE-AMERICAN MANGAKA EMPLOYED BY THE OCCUPIED FORCES...
.....
PLEASE SEARCH FOR HIM.
HIS NAME'S KINJI!!

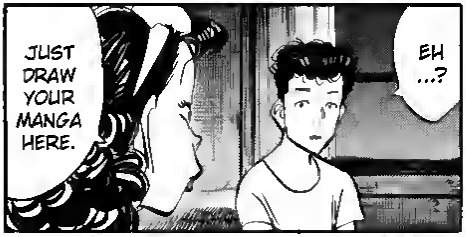
IT IS BY NO MEANS AN EASY TASK, AND THEREFORE OUR ORGANIZATION HAS DECIDED IT WILL BE THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO TEST OUR ABILITIES!!
CLAP CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
AND WE WILL COME OUT WITH VICTORY!!
WE WILL TAKE THE CHALLENGE!!
WE CHOOSE TO GO TO THE MOON!!
We choose to go to the moon!!

WE CHOOSE TO GO TO THE MOON!!
HAH !?
AWAKE ?
Haa
Haa
Haa
YOU WERE REALLY TOSSING AND TURNING... ARE YOU OK?
AH...
YEAH ...

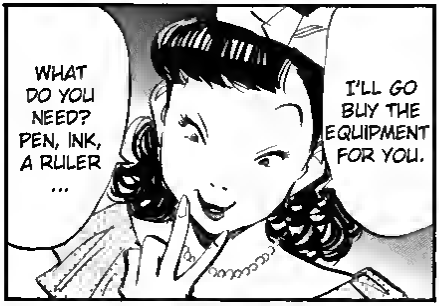

W... WORK ...?
I DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF PLAYING AROUND EVERY DAY LIKE WE'VE BEEN DOING LATELY.
ALL MY WOUNDS ARE HEALED, SO I'M GOING OUT TO WORK TONIGHT.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY, I WON'T FORGET YOU FOR A SECOND, KIN-CHAN!
BUT ...
YOU CAN STAY.
EH ...?
I HAVE TO GO, TOO... THE GIRLS WILL RETURN TO THIS ROOM IN THE MORNING, RIGHT?

JUST DRAW IT HERE.
NO, I CAN'T DO THAT...

YOU CAN STAY AS LOOOONG AS YOU WANT.
I'M SURE EVERYONE WILL LIKE YOU, KIN-CHAN.

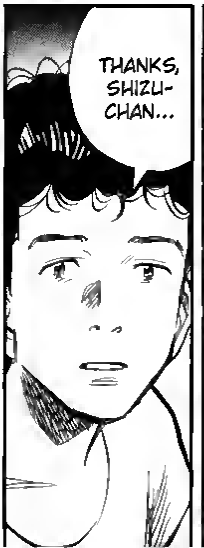

JUST DRAW YOUR MANGA HERE.
EH ...?

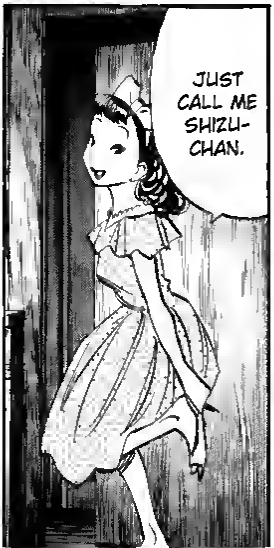
SHIZUKO-SAN...

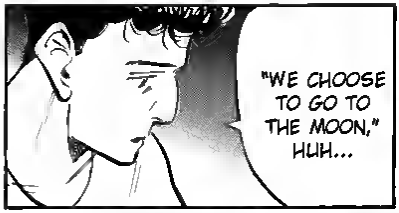

WHAT DO YOU NEED? PEN, INK, A RULER ...
I'LL GO BUY THE EQUIPMENT FOR YOU.

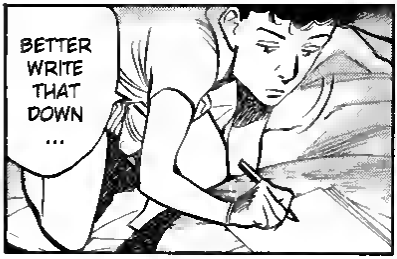
I'LL BE BACK, DARLING!

!!A!


THANKS, SHIZU-CHAN...


JUST CALL ME SHIZU-CHAN.

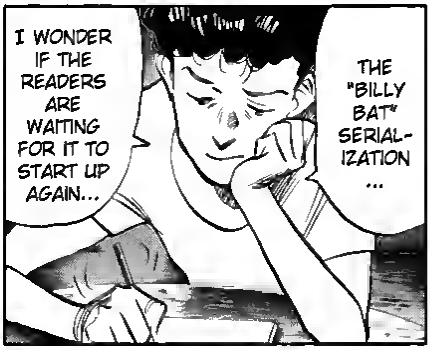

"WE CHOOSE TO GO TO THE MOON," HUH...


BETTER WRITE THAT DOWN ...

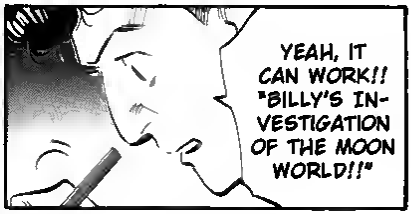
sha
sha
sha

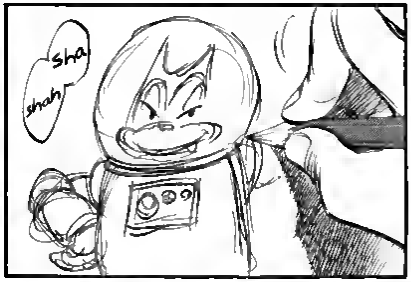
MANGA... IT'S SURE BEEN A WHILE...

A TRIP TO THE MOON, HUH...?
IT'S COMPLETELY ABSURD, BUT IT MIGHT BE ENTERTAINING ...


THE "BILLY BAT" SERIALIZATION ...
I WONDER IF THE READERS ARE WAITING FOR IT TO START UP AGAIN...

shah
shah
shah


YEAH, IT CAN WORK!! "BILLY'S INVESTIGATION OF THE MOON WORLD!!"

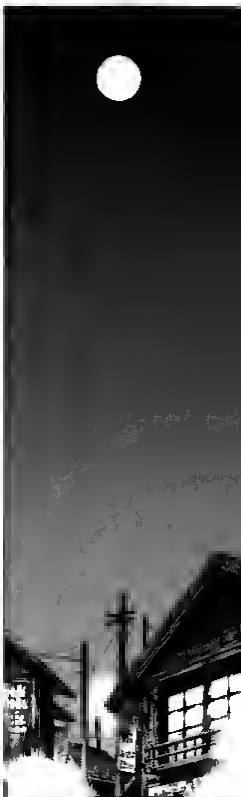

sha
shah

WANNA PLAY A LITTLE?
HEY THERE, BROTHER ...

COME ON! IT'S BECAUSE EVERYONE'S IN HARD TIMES THESE DAYS...
AWW,

HEY, LET'S PLAY A LITTLE, BROTH....

HEY, YOU.

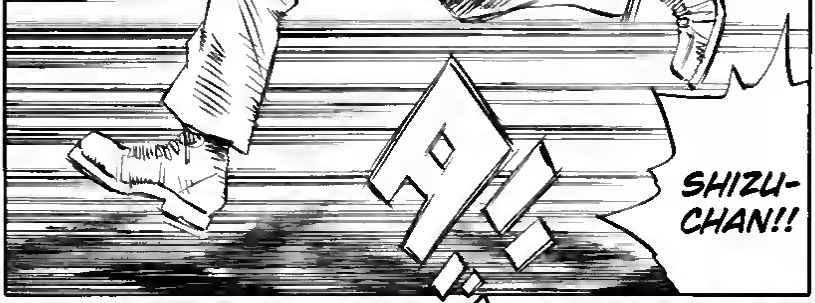


GUY
OH MY, WHAT A HANDSOME GUY...
WANNA PLAY A LITTLE?
AHHH, HEY! THERE'S NO NEED TO HURRY!
IT'S BEAUTIFUL TONIGHT, SO...
THE MOON ...
LET'S WAIT UNTIL WE GET INTO THE ROOM!
INCIDENTALLY, THE MAN WHO IS ATTEMPTING TO GO THERE IS THE PRESIDENT.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU TRY, NO ONE CAN BE LIKE PRINCESS KAGUYA.
YEAH RIGHT ...
SERIOUSLY? SORRY TO BREAK IT TO YOU, THOUGH, BUT I DON'T DO IT OUTSIDE.
A MAN ATTEMPTING TO GO THERE HAS APPEARED.

C'MON, LET'S GO BACK TO THE MAIN STREET!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU READ IT, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU READ THE MANGA.
READ WHAT ...?

!!
MMMMM, IT'S ALREADY GETTING BRIGHT OUTSIDE...
I WAS JUST USING YOUR ROOM... I'LL GET OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE !!
AHH... SORRY !!
Haa
Haa
Haa
ARE YOU KIN-CHAN!?
GET OUT HERE RIGHT NOW!!
I'M SORRY ...!!
Y... YES...

HUH ...?
SHIZU-CHAN...
SHIZU-CHAN'S IN BIG TROUBLE!!


SHIZU-
CHAN!!

Haa
Haa
Haa

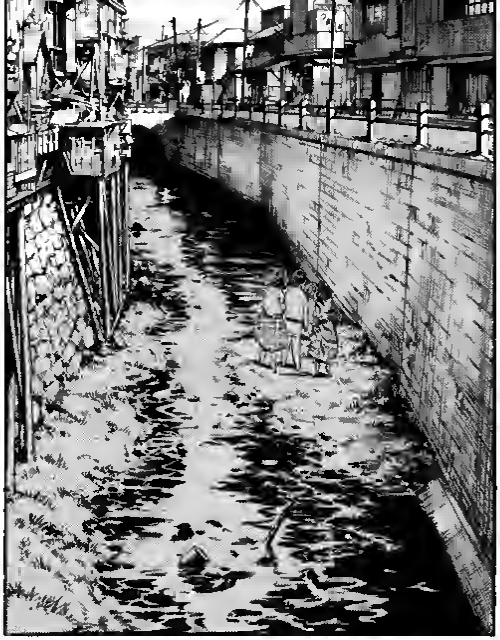
SHIZU-
CHAAA
AAAN!!

chih
chih chih
EXCUSE ME.
I CAN'T STAND BAD JAPANESE. SPEAK ENGLISH, WILL YOU?
ARE YOU SHIRASU-SAN?

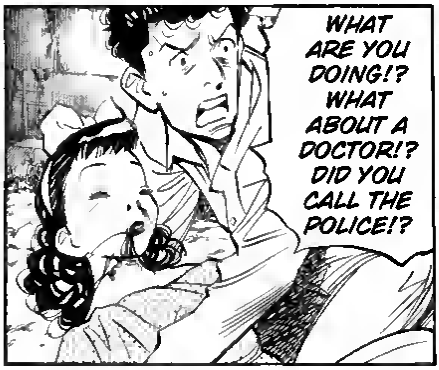
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A SHIRASU WHO WANTS TO TALK TO YOU, YOU WON'T FIND ONE HERE.
ZAH
MR. JIROU SHIRASU, I PRESUME?
DID THEY TEACH YOU THAT AT OXFORD?
WHAT NATURAL-SOUNDING ENGLISH.
I'M JUST A FARMER.
LIKE HOW TO TILL THE SOIL, FOR IN-STANCE.
IS THAT A HARD THING TO DO? PLOWING FIELDS...
OXFORD IS A NICE SCHOOL, BUT THEY WON'T TEACH YOU ANYTHING VITAL.
EVEN KIDS CAN SPEAK ENGLISH.

ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU'VE GOT A COUNTRY LIKE THIS THAT NEEDS TO BE RE-PLOWED FROM SQUARE ONE.
YEAH.
ZAH!
THIS MAN... HAVE YOU EVER SEEN HIM BEFORE?

Haa
Haa
Haa



M...
MOVE IT!!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? WHAT ABOUT A DOCTOR!? DID YOU CALL THE POLICE!?

SHIZU-CHAN ...!!
SHIZU-CHAN !!

EH ...?
BUT SHIZU-CHAN SAID NOT TO...
HURRY UP AND DO IT!! IF YOU KEEP STANDING AROUND LIKE THIS, SHE'LL...
SHE SAID THAT SHE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU, NOT POLICEMEN OR DOC-TORS...
CALL A FUCKING DOCTOR, I SAID!!
CALL A DOCTOR RIGHT NOW.
BUT ...

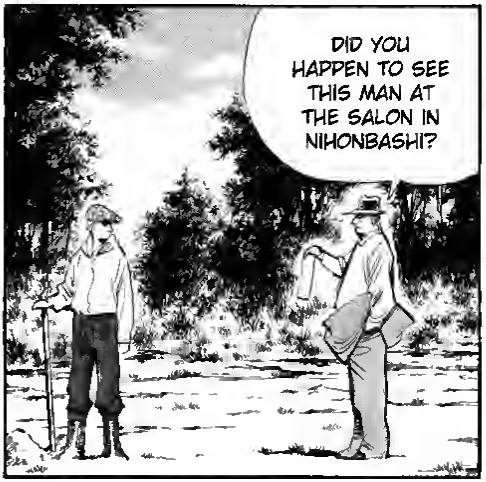
SHIZU-CHAN...
HIEE!!
NO...
KIN-CHAN ...
WHAT KIND OF MAN WAS HE? WHAT DID HIS FACE LOOK LIKE?
IS IT THE SAME CUSTOMER THAT HIT YOU BEFORE?
WHO... WHO DID THIS TO YOU?
KARATE CHOP...?
THAT MANGA ...
EH?
SHE SAID THE KARATE CHOP MAN DID IT...
LIKE THIS!!

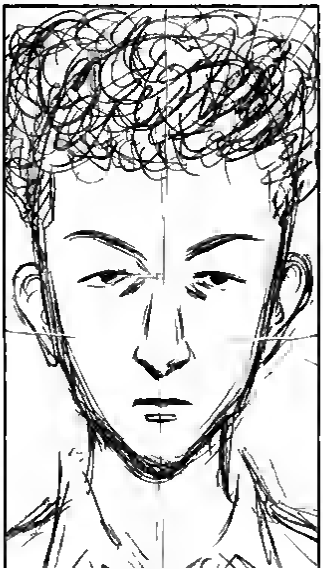
IT'S MY FAULT...
YOU TOLD ME NOT TO READ IT...
IT'S BECAUSE I READ THAT MANGA ...
ZAFUU-SENSEI'S MANGA...?
HEY, KIN-CHAN ...
MMM ...?
I KNOW YOU CAN DRAW...
A BETTER MANGA THAN THAT...
I KNOW YOU CAN WRITE A BETTER CONTINUATION, KIN-CHAN...
A FUNNIER, MORE INTERESTING ONE...

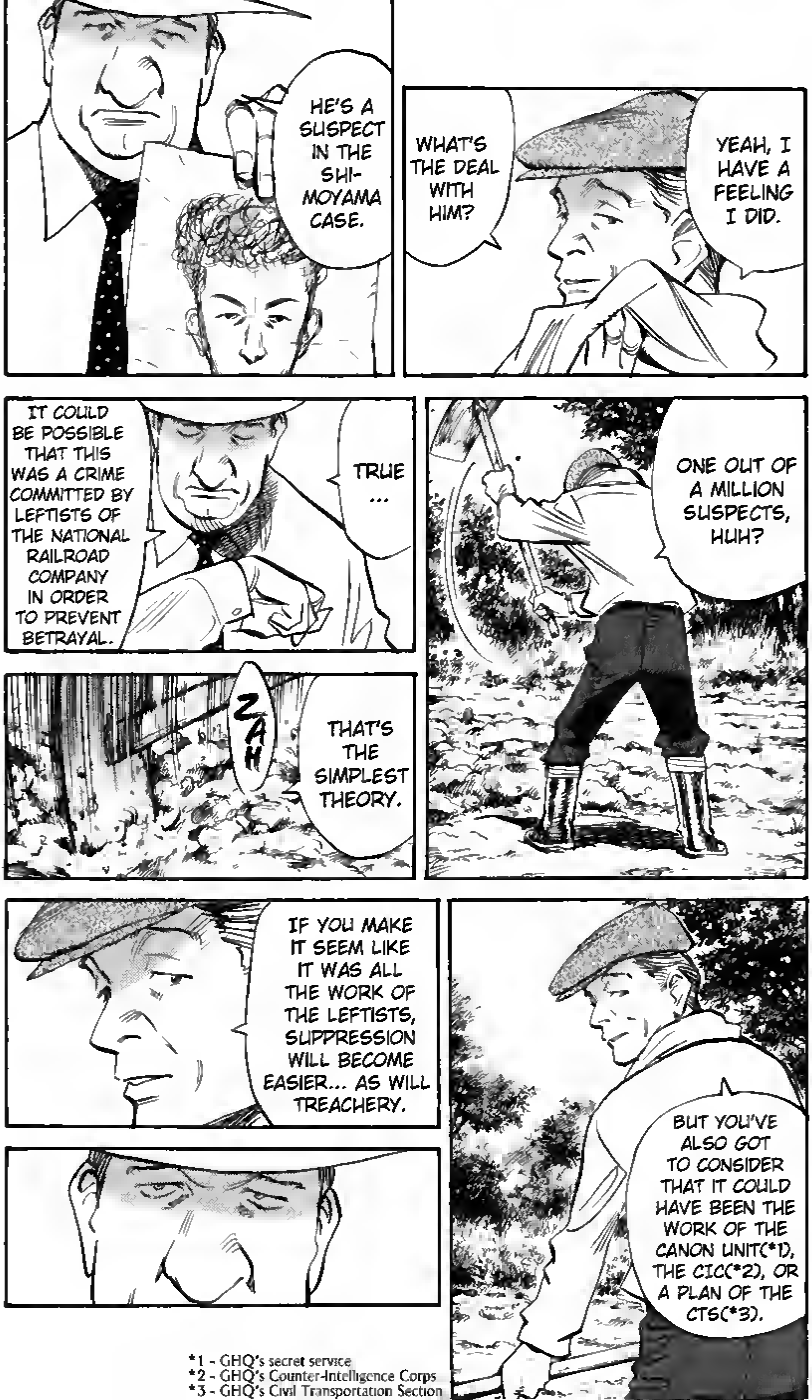
SHIZU-CHAN ...!!
...THEN, YOUR MANGA WILL BE USED TO MAKE AN AMUSEMENT PARK...
ONE THAT WILL MAKE THE WHOLE WORLD CHEER UP...
Uu... uuuu..
KINJI'S FLOWER MANSION... KINHEAVEN ...
EVERY-ONE WILL HAVE FUN THERE...
SHIZU-CHAN...
THAT NEVER... STARTS ANOTHER WAR...
IT'LL BE A WORLD ...

I DIDN'T HAVE TIME...
YOUR TOOLS...
EH ...?
I'M SORRY, KIN-CHAN...
I STILL HAVEN'T BOU...
SHIZU-CHAN!!
SHIZU-CHAN!!

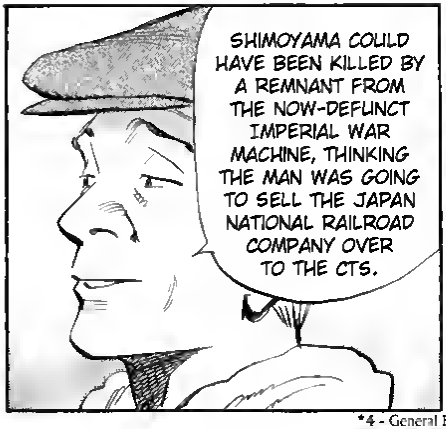
SHIZU-CHAAAAAAN!!


DID YOU HAPPEN TO SEE THIS MAN AT THE SALON IN NIHONBASHI?




HE'S A SUSPECT IN THE SHI-MOYAMA CASE.
WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH HIM?
YEAH, I HAVE A FEELING I DID.
IT COULD BE POSSIBLE THAT THIS WAS A CRIME COMMITTED BY LEFTISTS OF THE NATIONAL RAILROAD COMPANY IN ORDER TO PREVENT BETRAYAL.
TRUE ...
ONE OUT OF A MILLION SUSPECTS, HUH?
ZAH
THAT'S THE SIMPLEST THEORY.
IF YOU MAKE IT SEEM LIKE IT WAS ALL THE WORK OF THE LEFTISTS, SUPPRESSION WILL BECOME EASIER... AS WILL TREACHERY.
BUT YOU'VE ALSO GOT TO CONSIDER THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN THE WORK OF THE CANON UNIT(*1), THE CIC(*2), OR A PLAN OF THE CTS(*3).

*1 - GHQ's secret service
*2 - GHQ's Counter-Intelligence Corps
*3 - GHQ's Civil Transportation Section


SHIMOYAMA COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED BY A REMNANT FROM THE NOW-DEFUNCT IMPERIAL WAR MACHINE, THINKING THE MAN WAS GOING TO SELL THE JAPAN NATIONAL RAILROAD COMPANY OVER TO THE CTS.

*4 - General Headquarters (Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers)

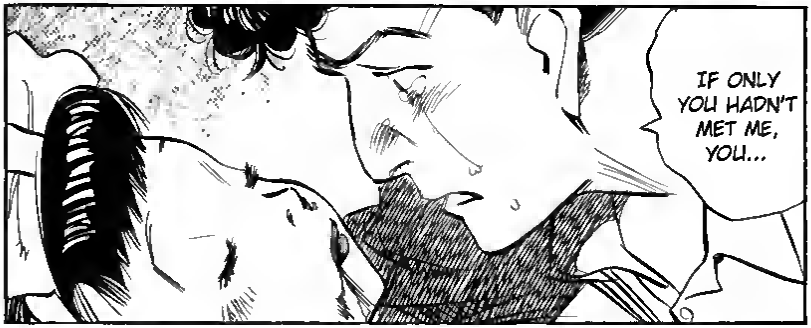
IT CLAIMS THAT SHIMOYAMA FOUND OUT THE TRUE PURPOSE BEHIND GHQ'S PROMOTION OF THE NATIONAL RAIL-ROAD COMPANY'S WIDESPREAD DISMISSAL POLICY, AND STARTED TO OPPOSE IT...
I ALSO HEARD A FUNNY RUMOR.

SO HE WAS SILENCED BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, WHO HAVE BEEN USING THE GOLD BARS THEY LEVIED FROM THEIR CITIZENS AND OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO FUND THE PREVENTION OF POSSIBLE TREASON.

24...
I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF ALL THE PARTIES I JUST MENTIONED END UP BEING GUILTY.
A SHAM ...?
EITHER WAY, IT SOUNDS LIKE A SHAM.
WELL, A CORPSE WITH ALL THE BLOOD SUCKED OUT OF IT ISN'T EXACTLY A NORMAL FINDING.
A SHAM, HUH...?
A SHAM CREATED BY THE PEOPLE WHO KILLED SHIMOYAMA AND ARE TRYING TO PLUNGE THE HISTORY OF JAPAN INTO DARKNESS...

AND WE STILL HAVEN'T FOUND SHIMOYAMA'S TRADEMARK LOYD GLASSES, NECKTIE, ZIPPO LIGHTER, OR CIGARETTE CASE...
THERE'S ALSO THE MYSTERIOUS OIL THAT WAS SPREAD ALL OVER HIS CLOTHES...
SEE, SOMEONE'S PULLING THE WOOL OVER YOUR EYES.
THERE'S EVEN ONE THAT SAYS HE WAS DEALT A FATAL BLOW BY A KARATE CHOP.
ABOUT THE REAL CAUSE OF SHIMOYAMA'S DEATH... THERE'S A WHOLE SLEW OF THEORIES...
TALK ABOUT A BAD JOKE.

IF ONLY YOU HADN'T MET ME ...

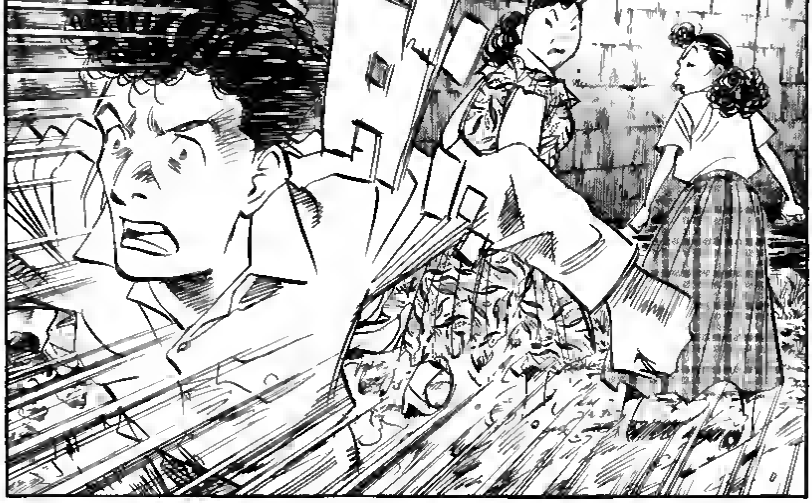

IF ONLY YOU HADN'T MET ME, YOU...

DID THE POLICE GET HERE?
IF IT'S THE DOCTOR, HE'S ALREADY TOO LATE.

HEY, GIRLS !!

BUT SOME-THING'S WEIRD!!
I THOUGHT THEY LOOKED LIKE POLICE SO I BROUGHT THEM OVER!!
KYAAH!
WEIRD ...?
?

HURRY UP AND RUN!!
RUN.
B... BUT...
EH?
IF YOU GET CAUGHT HERE, SHIZU-CHAN'S DEATH WILL HAVE BEEN IN VAIN!!
SHIZU-CHAN DIDN'T CALL FOR THE POLICE OR A DOCTOR IN ORDER TO SAVE YOU!!



ba
sha
ba
sha

Haa
Haa
ba
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ba
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sha

!!

ba
sha
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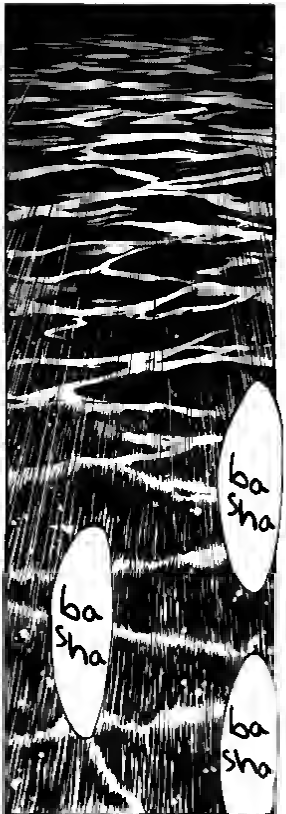
sha


ba
sha
ba
sha
ba
sha

.....

IS INSTANT DEMOC-RACY...
THE DE-MOCRACY OF THIS COUNTRY
IT'S DEMOCRACY BORN FROM A MERE TEN PEOPLE.
THAT'S WHY THE BULK OF IT IS STILL...
EN-SHROUDED IN DARK-NESS.
Pi cha

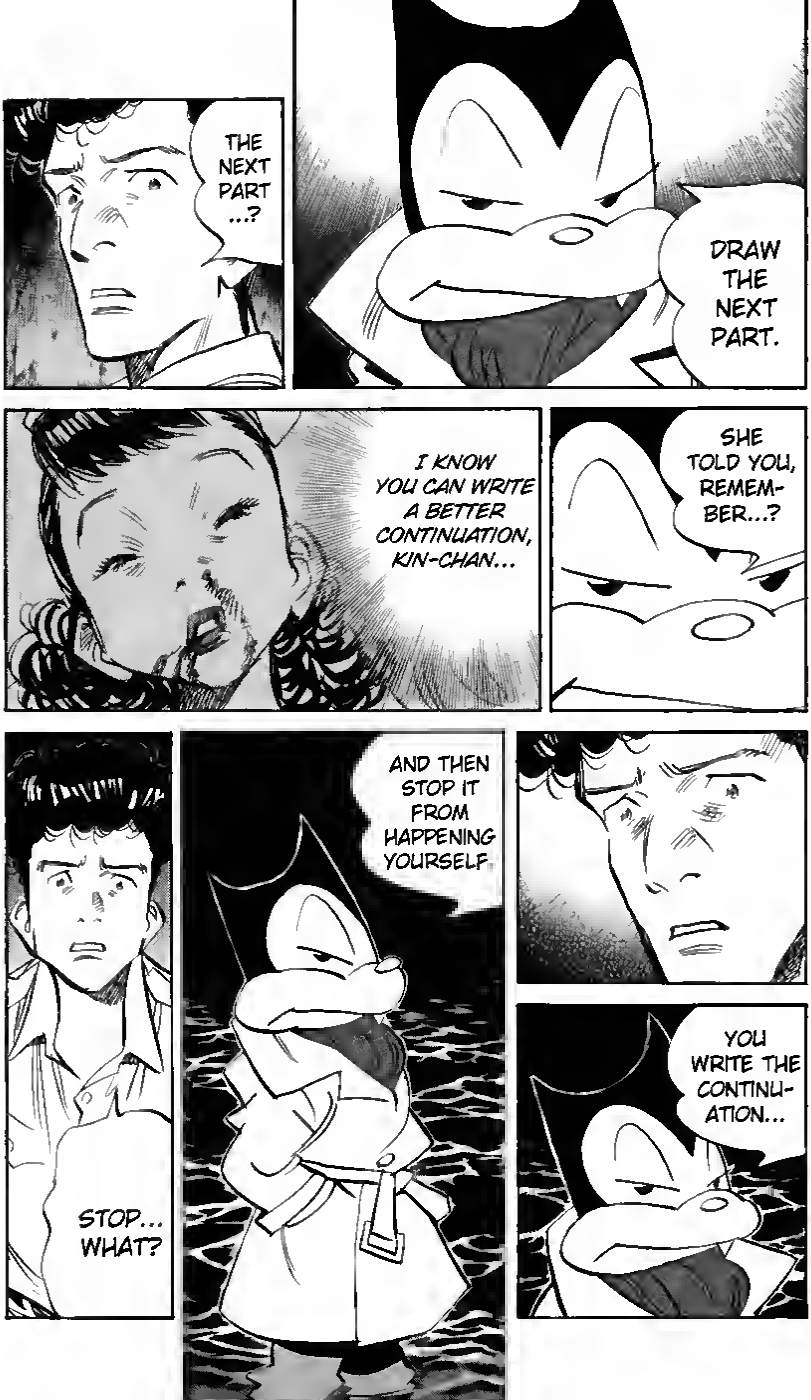
YOOO! YOU REALLY HAVE BEEN DOING NOTHING BUT RUNNING LATELY.
SURE YOU'RE ALRIGHT WITH THAT, PAL?

Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK LIKE A CROW THAT JUST GOT SHOT WITH A CAP GUN!
Haa
Haa
Haa
AND WE'VE ALREADY MET BEFORE. SO WHAT'S THE LONG FACE FOR?
IT'S ME. ME!
HUH? IS THIS DIFFICULT JAPANESE TOO MUCH FOR A JAPANESE-AMERICAN LIKE YOU TO UNDERSTAND?
I'M NOT THE "BAT BOY" THAT OLD MAN DREW, YOU KNOW...

Chapter 13 A Forced Destiny

DON'T BELIEVE ME? I EVEN HAVE THE BAT WINGS, YOU KNOW.
WANT ME TO FLUTTER A LITTLE?
THE CATCH-PHRASE BILLY ALWAYS SAYS...
FELLAS DON'T JUST FLY AROUND WHENEVER THEY FEEL LIKE IT, THOUGH.
YOUR GIRLFRIEND... SORRY TO HEAR WHAT HAPPENED TO HER.
THAT'S RIGHT— I'M THE HERO YOU CREATED, BILLY-SAMA!
I'VE SAID FAREWELL TO WOMEN MANY A TIME, BUT...

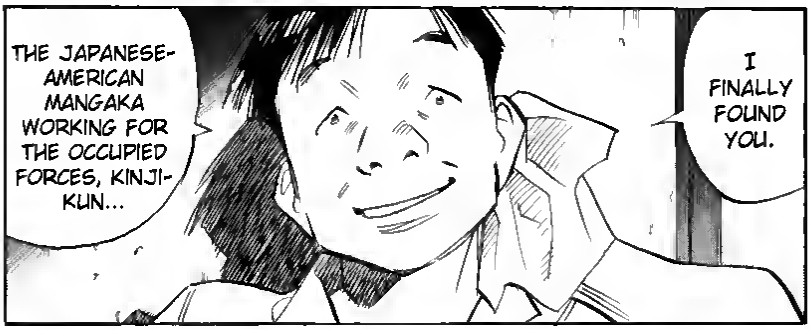
BUT WITH THAT SAID...
DEATH FARE-WELLS ARE TRULY PAINFUL ...
YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY.
WHAT ELSE CAN I DO...?
BUT ...
YOU THINK IT'S ALRIGHT FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU, WHO DREW A HERO LIKE ME,
TO JUST KEEP RUNNING AWAY LIKE THIS?
HOOO ...
SURE BEATS ME HOW YOU MANAGED TO KEEP UP THAT MANGAKA CAREER SO LONG.


THE NEXT PART ...?
DRAW THE NEXT PART.
I KNOW YOU CAN WRITE A BETTER CONTINUATION, KIN-CHAN...
SHE TOLD YOU, REMEMBER...?
STOP... WHAT?
AND THEN STOP IT FROM HAPPENING YOURSELF
YOU WRITE THE CONTINUATION...

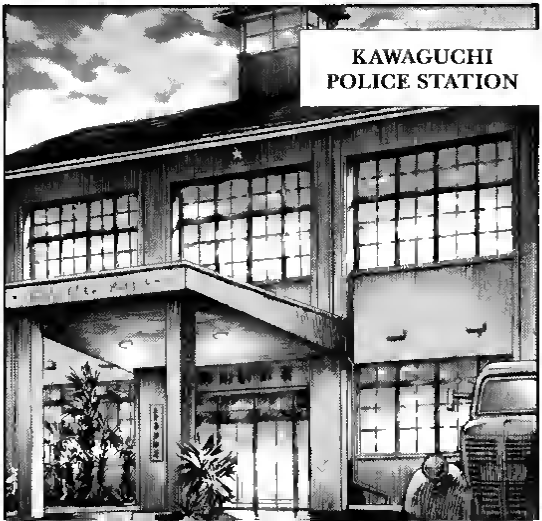
RIGHT NOW, THEY'RE PLANNING TO COVER THIS 20TH CENTURY IN THE GREATEST DARKNESS IT'S EVER SEEN.
AH ...
YOU'RE LEAV-ING?
ba sha
J... JUST TELL ME ONE THING!
ARE YOU WHITE OR BLACK ...?
ba sha

THE BILLY BAT YOU CREATED.
I'M ...
.....
TO KEEP RUNNING LIKE THIS ...?
IS IT ALRIGHT ...

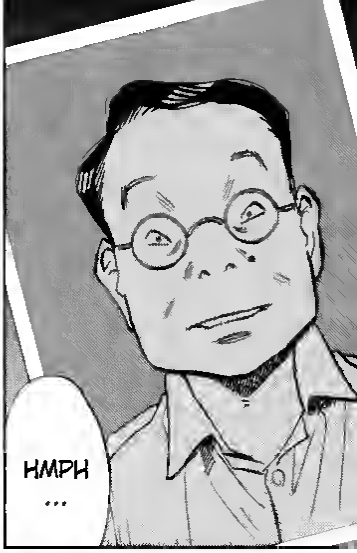
NOT ONE BIT...
min min min
山王ホテル
SANNO HOTEL
GHQ LODGING HOUSE
ZAH
I WON'T... RUN ANY MORE.
I'M TURNING MYSELF IN TO HQ.
YO...



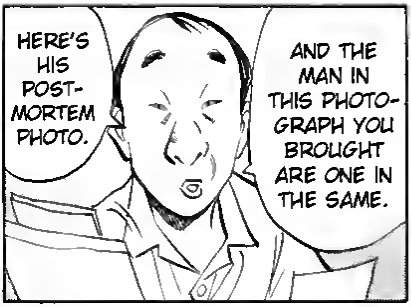
Sign: Identification Division



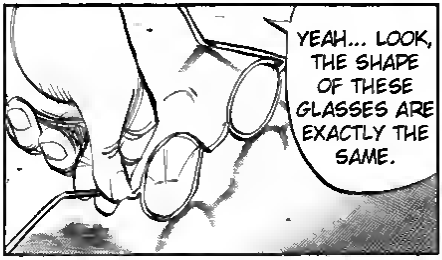
THE CORPSE FOUND NEAR YATSUKA STATION ON THE TOUBU ISEZAKI LINE TWENTY DAYS AGO ...
THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT.


HMPH ...

YATSUKA STATION... THAT'S IN SOUKA CITY, SAITAMA, RIGHT...?


HERE'S HIS POST-MORTEM PHOTO.
AND THE MAN IN THIS PHOTOGRAPH YOU BROUGHT ARE ONE IN THE SAME.

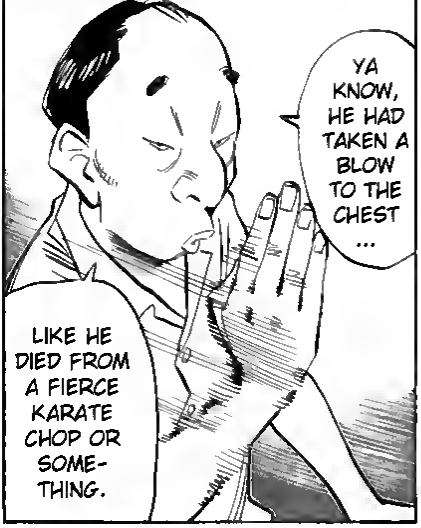
I CAN'T REALLY SAY FOR SURE.
WE GET OUR SHARE OF JUMPERS EVERY YEAR, AFTER ALL.


YEAH... LOOK, THE SHAPE OF THESE GLASSES ARE EXACTLY THE SAME.

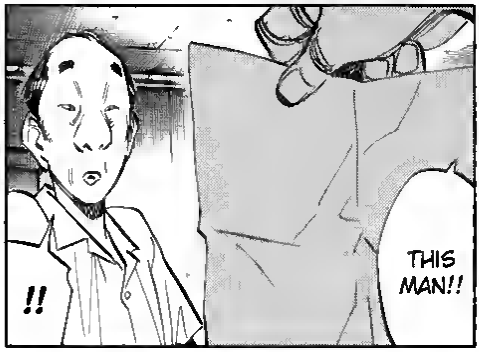
WAS IT SUICIDE?

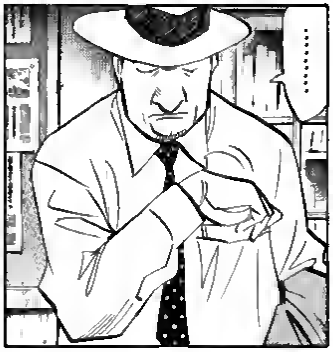
AH, YA KNOW, THERE'S A POSSIBILITY IT WAS A POSTHUMOUS ACCIDENT... LIKE THE BODY WAS DRAGGED THERE AFTER IT HAD ALREADY DIED...
WHY?
WE ALL AGREED THAT THIS REALLY RESEMBLES THE SHIMOYAMA CASE.
OH, BUT... WE WERE TALKING OFF THE RECORD, AND...
IN WHAT WAY?
.....
ALL THE BLOOD WAS GONE.
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. YOU SEEM TO HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH PROOF TO WARRANT SUSPICION THAT IT WASN'T A SUICIDE...
WELL, THIS IS JUST SPECULATION, THAT'S ALL, SPECULATION...
THEY ALSO APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN MADE POST-MORTEM.
WE FOUND SOME INCISION-LIKE WOUNDS, TOO...
LIKE I ALREADY TOLD YOU, SUICIDE.
SO THEN THE CAUSE OF DEATH IS?

KARATE CHOP ...?

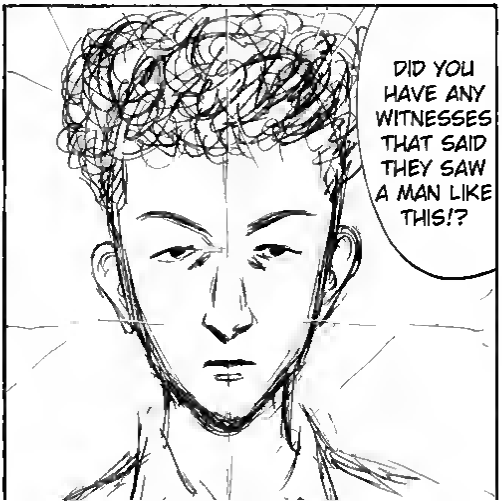

YA KNOW, HE HAD TAKEN A BLOW TO THE CHEST ...
LIKE HE DIED FROM A FIERCE KARATE CHOP OR SOME-THING.

I MEAN, SHIMOYA-MA-SAN'S CASE WAS DETERMIN-ED TO BE A SUICIDE TOO, RIGHT?
KIDDING, JUST KIDDING!


!!
THIS MAN!!


.....

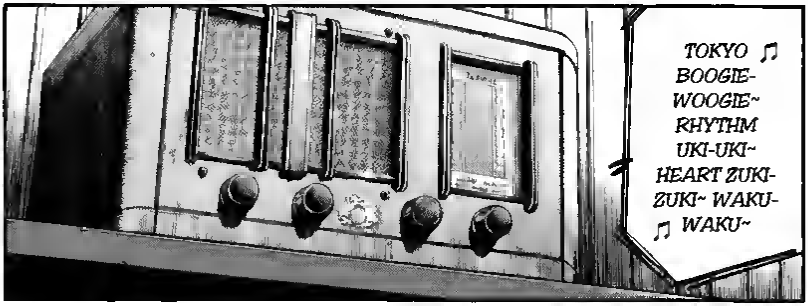
NO... WE'VE DONE OUR SHARE OF ASKING ALREADY TOO, YA KNOW.

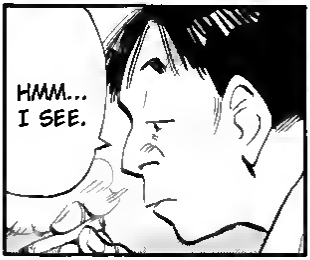

DID YOU HAVE ANY WITNESSES THAT SAID THEY SAW A MAN LIKE THIS!?

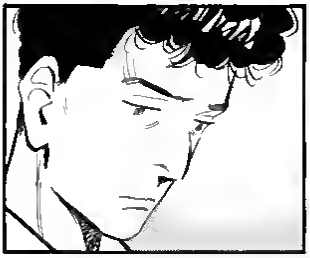
TH... THIS GUY IS ...
AS A RESULT, WE FOUND OUT THAT A MAN LIKE THIS WAS SIGHTED NUMEROUS TIMES.
JUST TO MAKE SURE NO ONE SAW ANY SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE AROUND THE DAY OF THE INCIDENT.
AM I DONE NOW ...?
IT WAS SUICIDE.
WE'VE COMPLETELY INVESTIGATED THIS CASE, YOU SEE...
FROM THE YAKITORI STAND ...

WE HAD AN INSPECTOR FROM GHQ COME EARLIER.
.....
AH... AND ONE MORE THING...
!?
WHO ...?
A MAN FROM THE GHQ SPECIAL INVES-TIGA-TIONS UNIT...
NAMED FINNEY ...
I ASSUME THERE WAS SOMETHING IN PARTICULAR HE WANTED TO KNOW?
YEAH... WELL, I DIDN'T REALLY UN-DERSTAND WHY, BUT ...
.....

HE KEPT ASKING ABOUT AN ANCIENT TEXT...


TOKYO ♫ BOOGIE-WOOGIE~ RHYTHM UKI-UKI~ HEART ZUKI-ZUKI~ WAKU-WAKU~ ♫


HMM... I SEE.



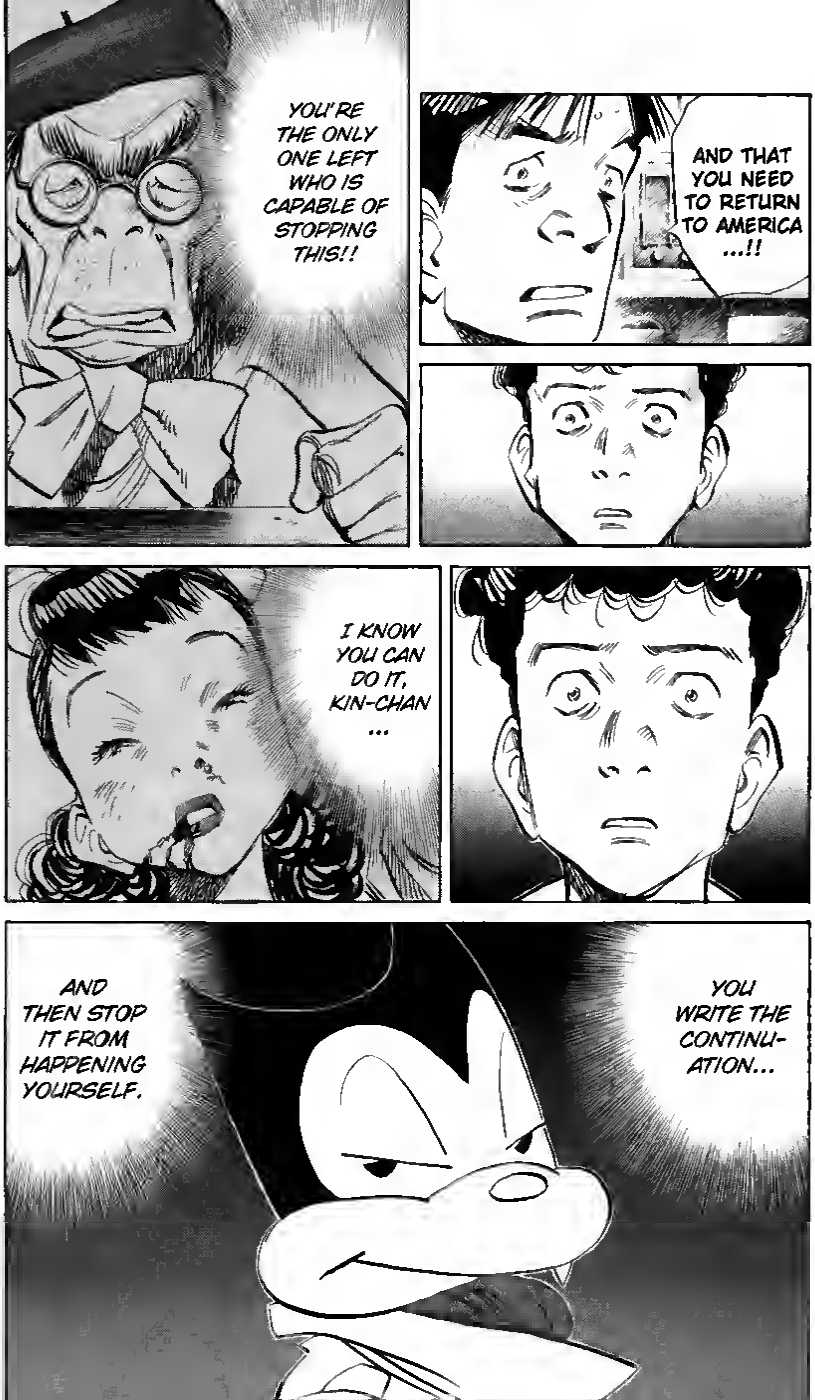
CROSS THE OCEAN, AND YOU'LL HEAR THE ECHO OF THE TOKYO ♫ BOOGIE-WOOGIE~

WELL, DON'T WORRY, THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE ME. I JUST WANT TO GET EVERYTHING OUT...
THAT'S A PRETTY MYSTERIOUS STORY.
YOU'RE THE WHITE ONE!
...AND THIS IS JUST MY INTUITION, BUT...
I'M A POLICEMAN, REMEMBER? I HAVE A KNACK FOR TELLING WHICH PARTS OF YOUR STORY ARE FAKE OR NOT.
I'LL HAVE TO BRING YOU IN AS A PRIME SUSPECT.
IF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF CHARLIE ISHIZUKA IS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE POLICE,
HOW COULD YOU KNOW THAT!?
I SAID IT'S MY INTUITION, DIDN'T I?

DIDN'T I TELL YOU? ZOFUU-SENSEI GAVE ME A PERSONAL REQUEST.
I STILL HAVEN'T RECEIVED ANY ORDERS YET, THOUGH ...
I CAME TO SEE YOU BECAUSE OF A DIFFERENT MATTER ENTIRELY.
WHAT DID SENSEI WANT ME TO DO...?
IF GOD REALLY EXISTS, HE SHOULD TRY GIVING US POLICEMEN A DAY OFF ONCE IN A WHILE.
DON'T BELIEVE IN SUPERSTITIONS OR PROPHECIES EITHER.
I DON'T BELIEVE IN ANY OF THESE NEW RELIGIONS ONE BIT, YOU KNOW.
DOESN'T ANYTHING COME TO MIND...?
EH ...?
SOMETHING BUGS ME, THOUGH... ABOUT WHAT YOUR SENSEI SAID...
NO... WHAT HE SAID ABOUT YOU...

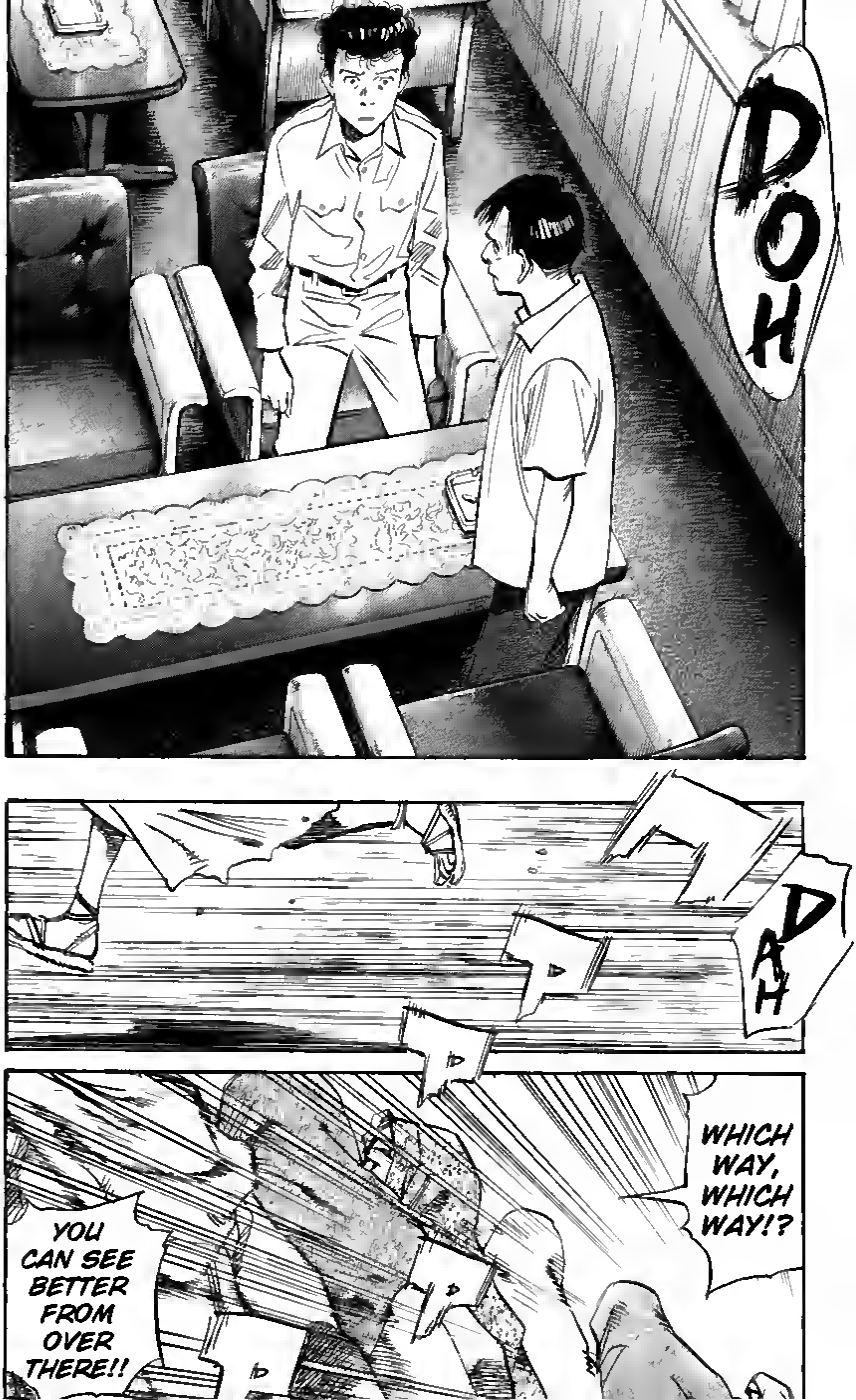
SERIOUSLY THINK ABOUT IT. DOESN'T A BIG TRAIN ACCIDENT,
OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT COME TO MIND?
W... WELL, LOTS OF MANGA COME TO MIND, BUT...
NO, THAT ISN'T WHAT I MEANT ...
LIKE I SAID...
THIS JUST IN!
WH... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AT 9:23 PM TODAY, A TRAIN MAL-FUNCTIONED INSIDE MITAKA STATION.
SIX PASSEN-GERS WERE CAUGHT UN-DERNEATH THE TRACKS AND DIED INSTANTLY...
!!

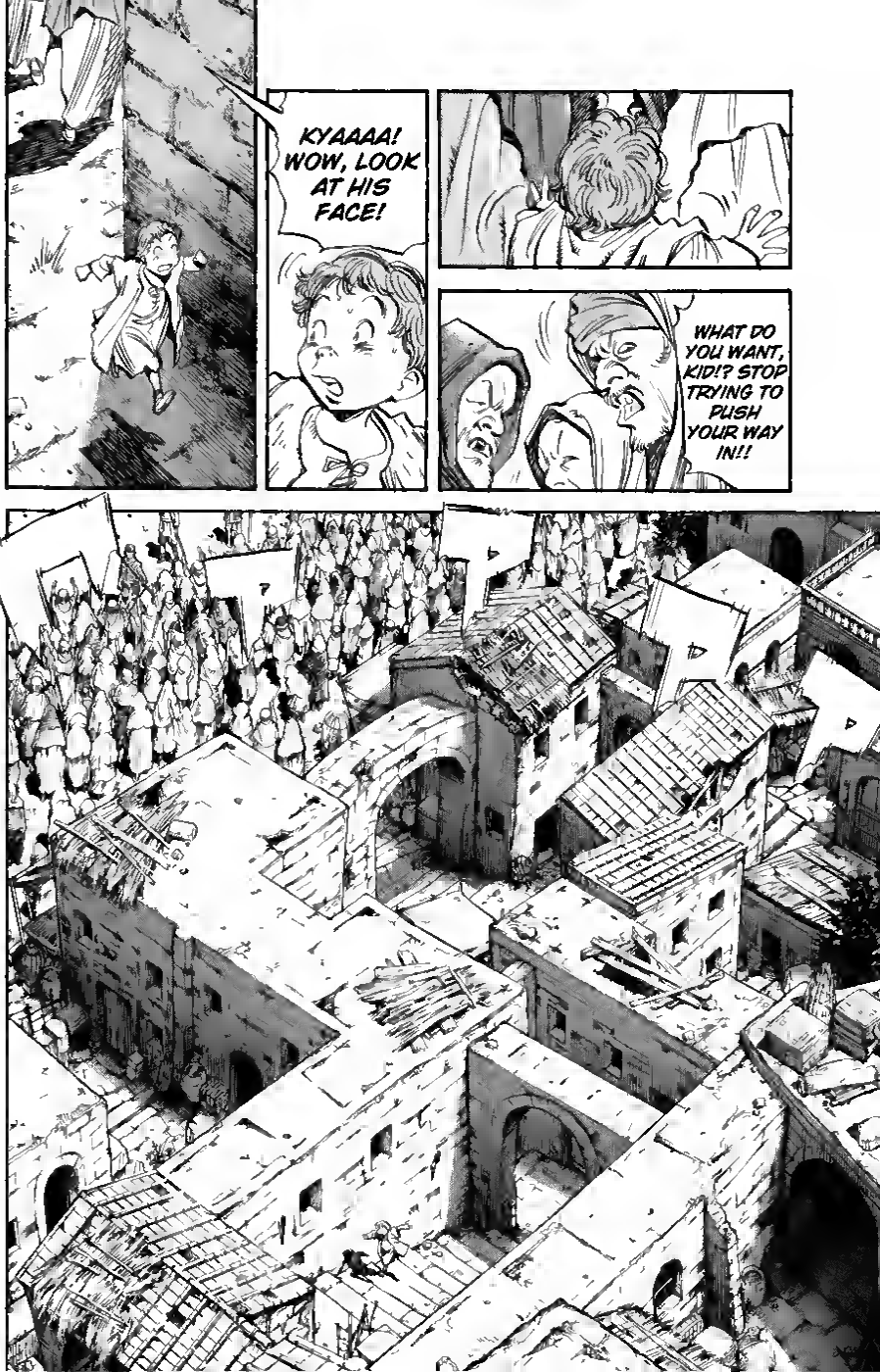
EH ...?
IT'S JUST LIKE THE PICTURE ...
ADDITIONALLY, A TRAIN FELL OFF THE TRACKS AND CRASHED INTO A NEARBY SHOPPING AREA, INJURING OVER TWENTY PEOPLE ...
MITAKA ...?
SHOULD WE KILL YOU AT MITAKA?
ミタカ
IT'S ALL JUST LIKE THE PICTURE ZOFUU-SENSEI DREW!! OF MITAKA...
!!
HE SAID YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN STOP THIS!
ZOFUU-SENSEI DREW THE SHIMOYAMA INCIDENT IN A MANGA WORD FOR WORD.
SEN-SEI...

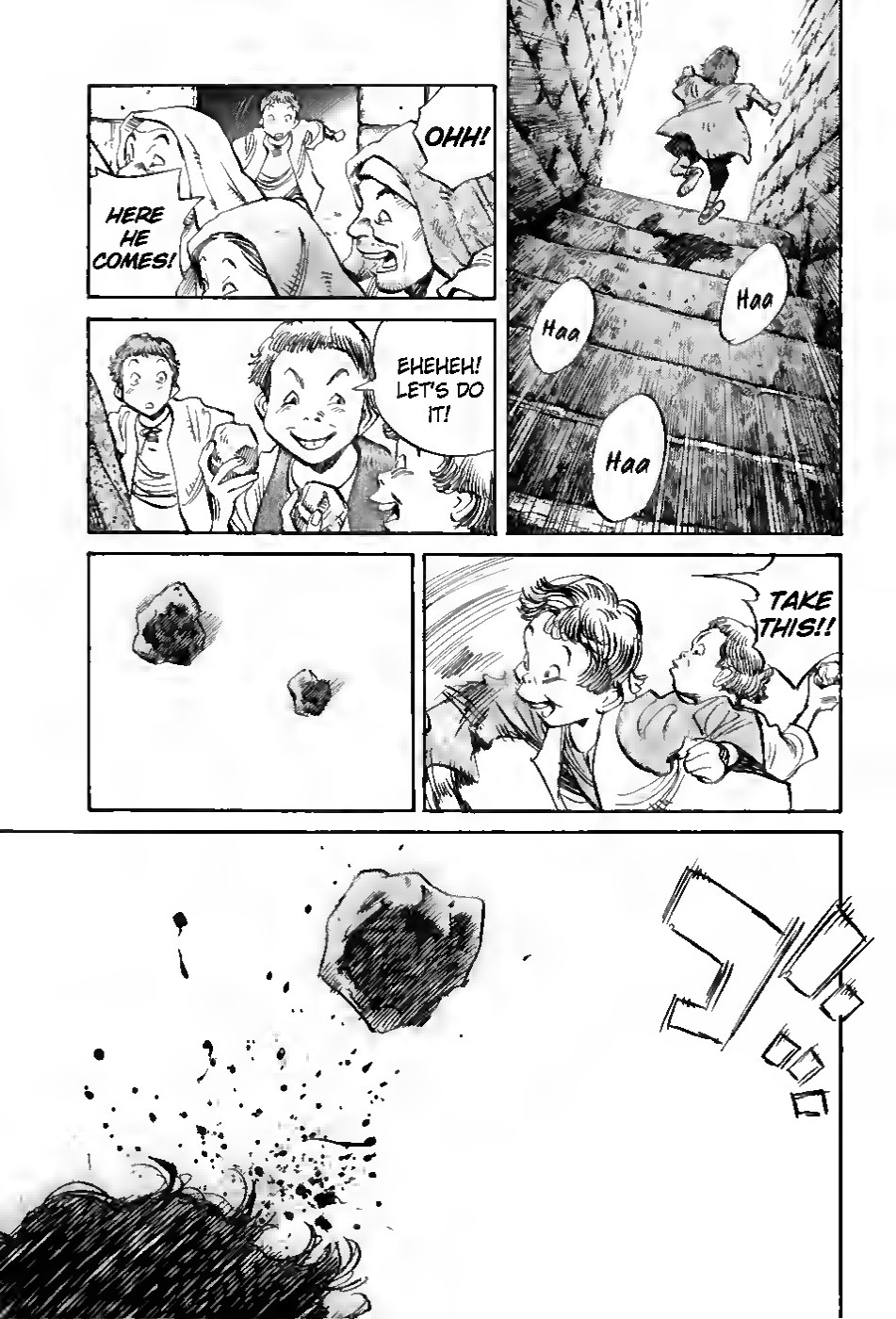

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE LEFT WHO IS CAPABLE OF STOPPING THIS!!
AND THAT YOU NEED TO RETURN TO AMERICA ...!!
I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT, KIN-CHAN ...
AND THEN STOP IT FROM HAPPENING YOURSELF.
YOU WRITE THE CONTINU-ATION...

YOU
...

DOH
DOH
DOH
DOH
DOH
ME...


DOH
DAH
P
P
P
WHICH WAY, WHICH WAY!?
YOU CAN SEE BETTER FROM OVER THERE!!

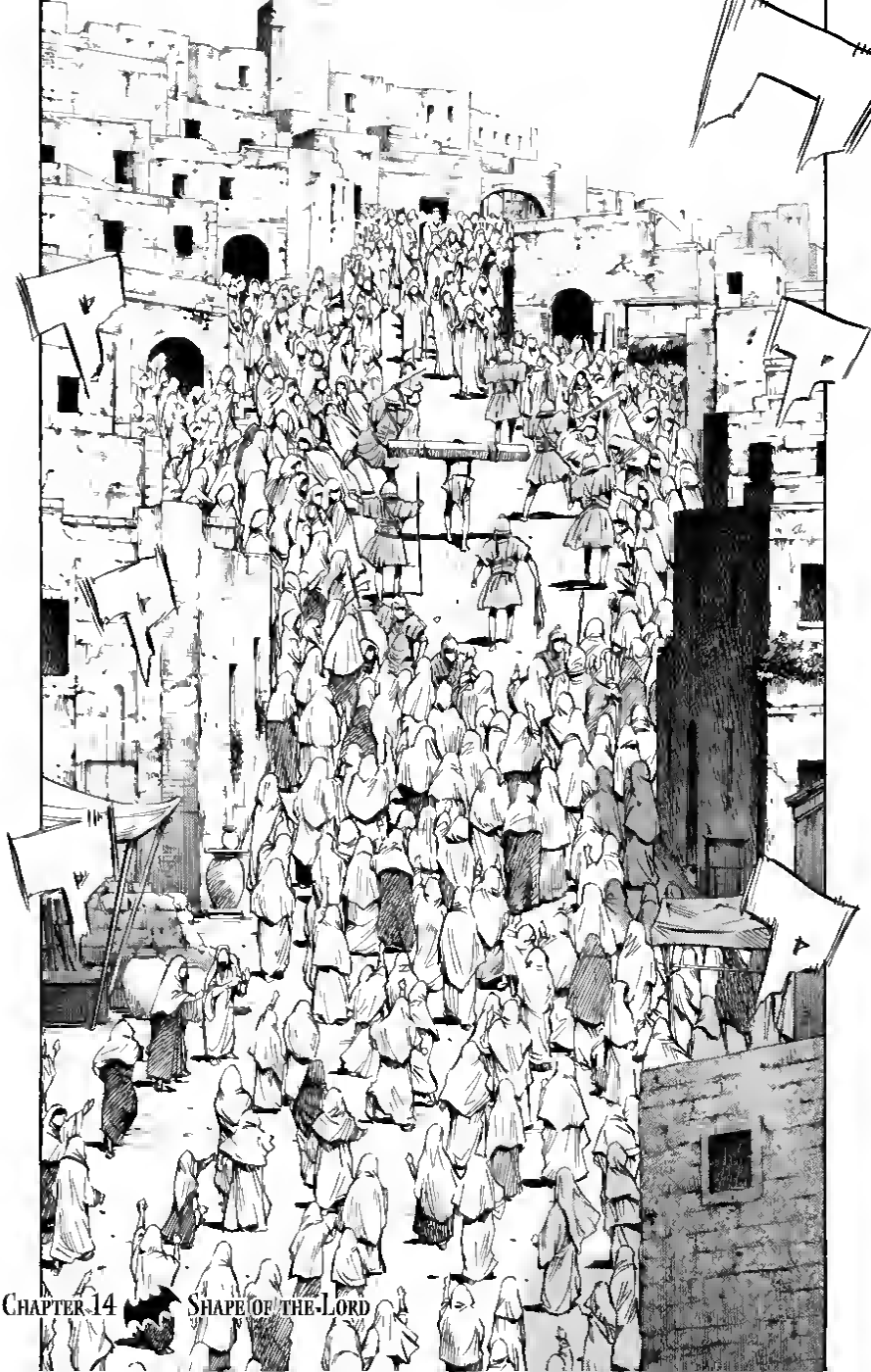

KYAAAA! WOW, LOOK AT HIS FACE!
WHAT DO YOU WANT, KID!? STOP TRYING TO PUSH YOUR WAY IN!!


OHH!
HERE HE COMES!
EHEHEH! LET'S DO IT!
Haa
Haa
Haa
TAKE THIS!!

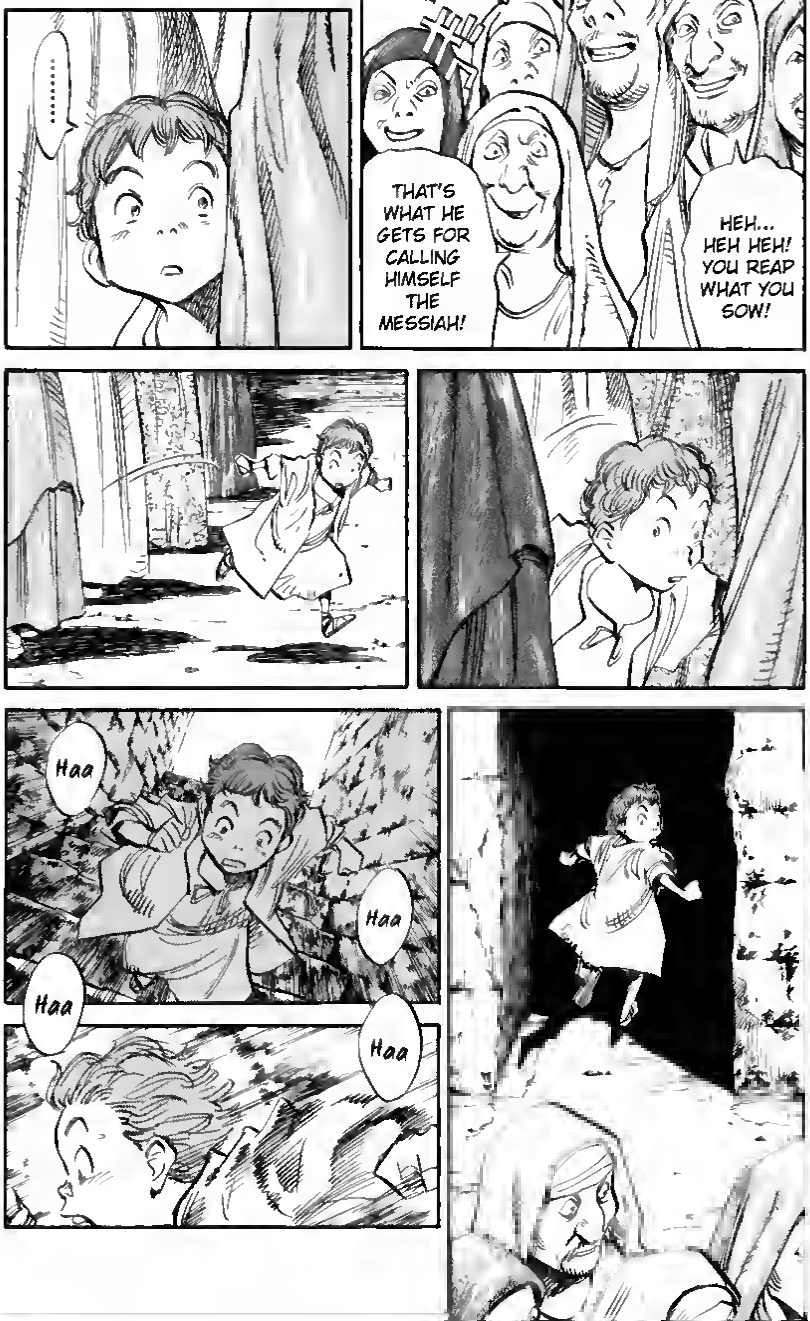
OHHH!!
ズン!
ズズ!
ゴゴ!

Za-!
WHO SAID YOU COULD TAKE A REST!?
HURRY UP AND KEEP WALK-ING!!
Z-!

Gu... ohhh ...
OHHHHH!!
Haa
Haa
OUT OF THE WAY! MOVE IT, MOVE IT!!
OPEN UP THE ROAD!!



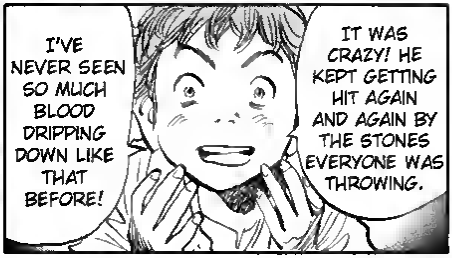
CHAPTER 14 SHAPE OF THE LORD


.....
THAT'S WHAT HE GETS FOR CALLING HIMSELF THE MESSIAH!
HEH... HEH HEH! YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW!
Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa

Ta da!
HEY, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HEY ...
Ga ta..
DON'T WORRY, IT'S JUST ME.

I SAW HIM JUST NOW!
HE WAS CARRYING A POLE LIKE THIS AND WAS COMPLETELY COVERED IN BLOOD!

DON'T WORRY, NO ONE SAW ME.


I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MUCH BLOOD DRIPPING DOWN LIKE THAT BEFORE!
IT WAS CRAZY! HE KEPT GETTING HIT AGAIN AND AGAIN BY THE STONES EVERYONE WAS THROWING.

Uu...
Uuuu...

GO ON, EAT IT. MY MOM MADE IT, IT'S REALLY GOOD.

AH... SORRY, YOU MUST BE HUNGRY, RIGHT?

I BROUGHT YOU SOME BREAD.

I KNOW IT MUST BE PAINFUL TO SEE ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS GO THROUGH SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
DON'T CRY, MISTER.
Oh... ohhh hh...
Ohhh...
I sold him...
YOU'RE STILL ALIVE, SO THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH, RIGHT? YOU CAN EAT TASTY BREAD, TOO...
Uohh... uohh...
That man out...
I... sold...
EH?

The Messiah...
He was the Anointed One...

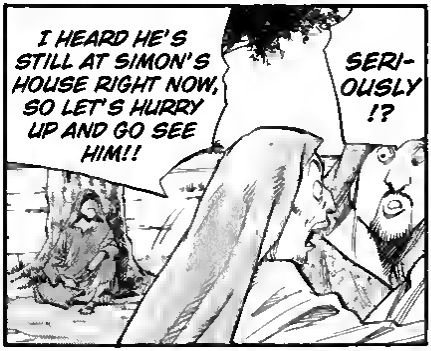
Ohhhh hhhh...

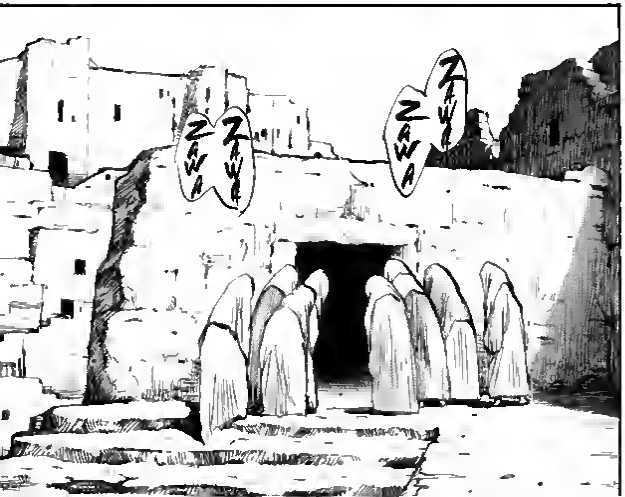
HEY, DID YOU HEAR?

YOU SUUURE IT ISN'T JUST ANOTHER CON ARTIST?
THE MES-SIAH, THE SAVIOR !!

WHAT IS?
THERE'S NO MISTAKE THIS TIME!

SIMON CASHED IN BIG ON THIS ONE!!
BUT THE PROPHECY CAME TRUE!!

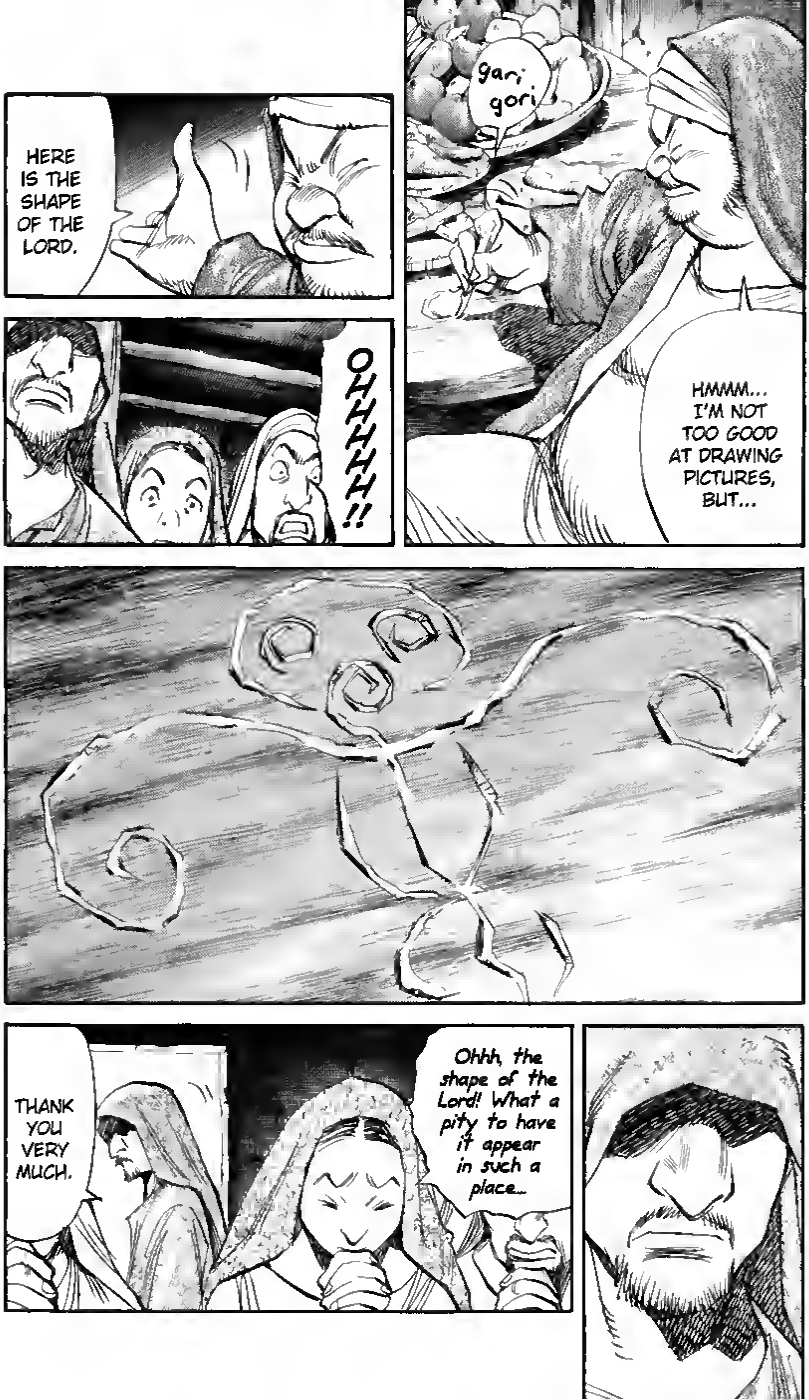

I HEARD HE'S STILL AT SIMON'S HOUSE RIGHT NOW, SO LET'S HURRY UP AND GO SEE HIM!!
SERI-OUSLY !?


ZAWA
ZAWA
ZAWA

.....

GA
HA
GA
HA
MU
SHA
MU
SHA
HEY, GIRL, COME A LITTLE CLOSER AND LEMME TAKE A GOOD LOOK.
MMM!! STILL EMPTY!!
.....
RELAX, AND WED THIS GIRL! SHE'S STILL A VIRGIN.

I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING!
Y-YES... YOU SEE, THE DISEASE IN MY REAR HASN'T HEALED YET...
NEXT!!
YEAH, YOU BET I DO!
THEN PLEASE ANSWER.
IT'S A SIMPLE QUESTION, PLEASE JUST ANSWER.
WAIT YOUR TURN!!
WHICH MEANS YOU MUST KNOW THE SHAPE OF THE LORD.
IT SEEMS THAT YOU ARE "THE ANOINTED ONE"...
BUT... I'M ASKING ABOUT WHAT FORM HE APPEARS IN TO YOU.
I KNOW THAT,
THE LORD IS INSIDE YOUR HEART!
WHAT IS THE SHAPE OF THE LORD?


HERE IS THE SHAPE OF THE LORD.
OHHHH!!
gari gori
HMMM... I'M NOT TOO GOOD AT DRAWING PICTURES, BUT...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
Ohhh, the shape of the Lord! What a pity to have it appear in such a place...

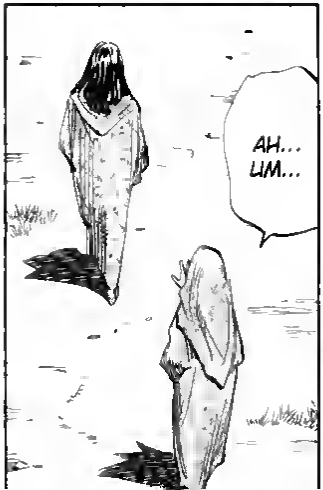
GU HA HA HA!
THAT'S VERY NICE TO HEAR.
INCIDENT-ALLY, I'M LEAVING ON A TRIP NOW.
WOULD YOU MIND USING YOUR POWER TO TELL ME WHAT KIND OF WEATHER TO EXPECT?
IN A SEASON LIKE THIS, THERE'S NO WAY IT'LL RAIN.
YOU'LL BE FINE.
sfx Zaaaah
sfx Zaaaaaah
AHA HA HA HA!
AHA HAHA HAH!

JUST BY PASSING HIS HAND OVER A WOMAN WHO HAD FALLEN BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD, SHE STARTED BREATHING AGAIN.
THANK YOU SO MUCH...

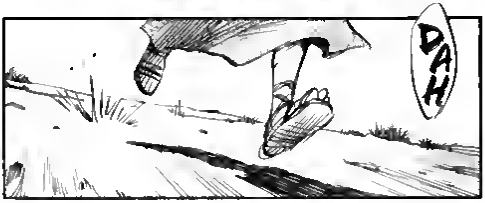
HOW CAN I THANK YOU...

TAKE CARE OF YOUR-SELF...
AH ...

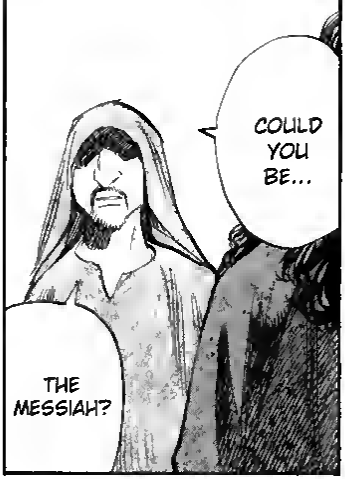
INSTEAD OF THANKING ME...
PRAY.


AH... UM...

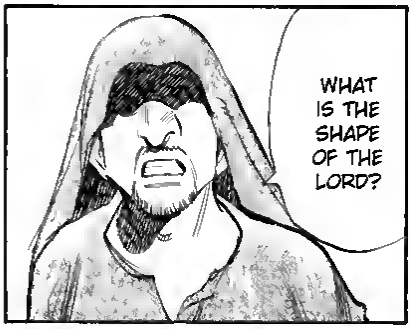
.....


DAH

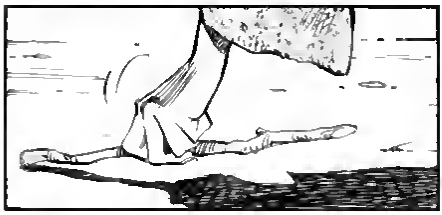
ZAH
ZAH


COULD YOU BE...
THE MESSIAH?

HAVE YOU MET WITH THE LORD?


WHAT IS THE SHAPE OF THE LORD?

ZAH
PLEASE ANSWER ME.

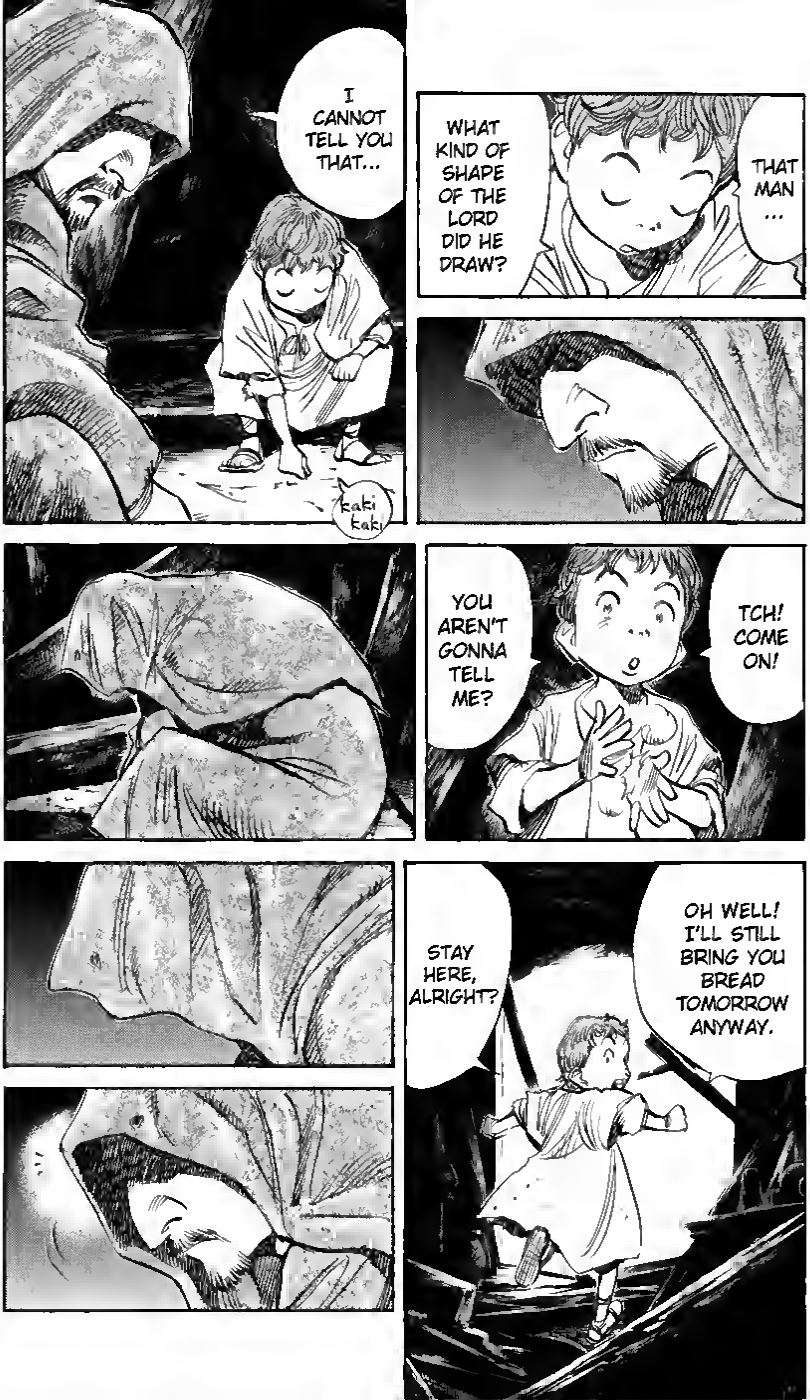


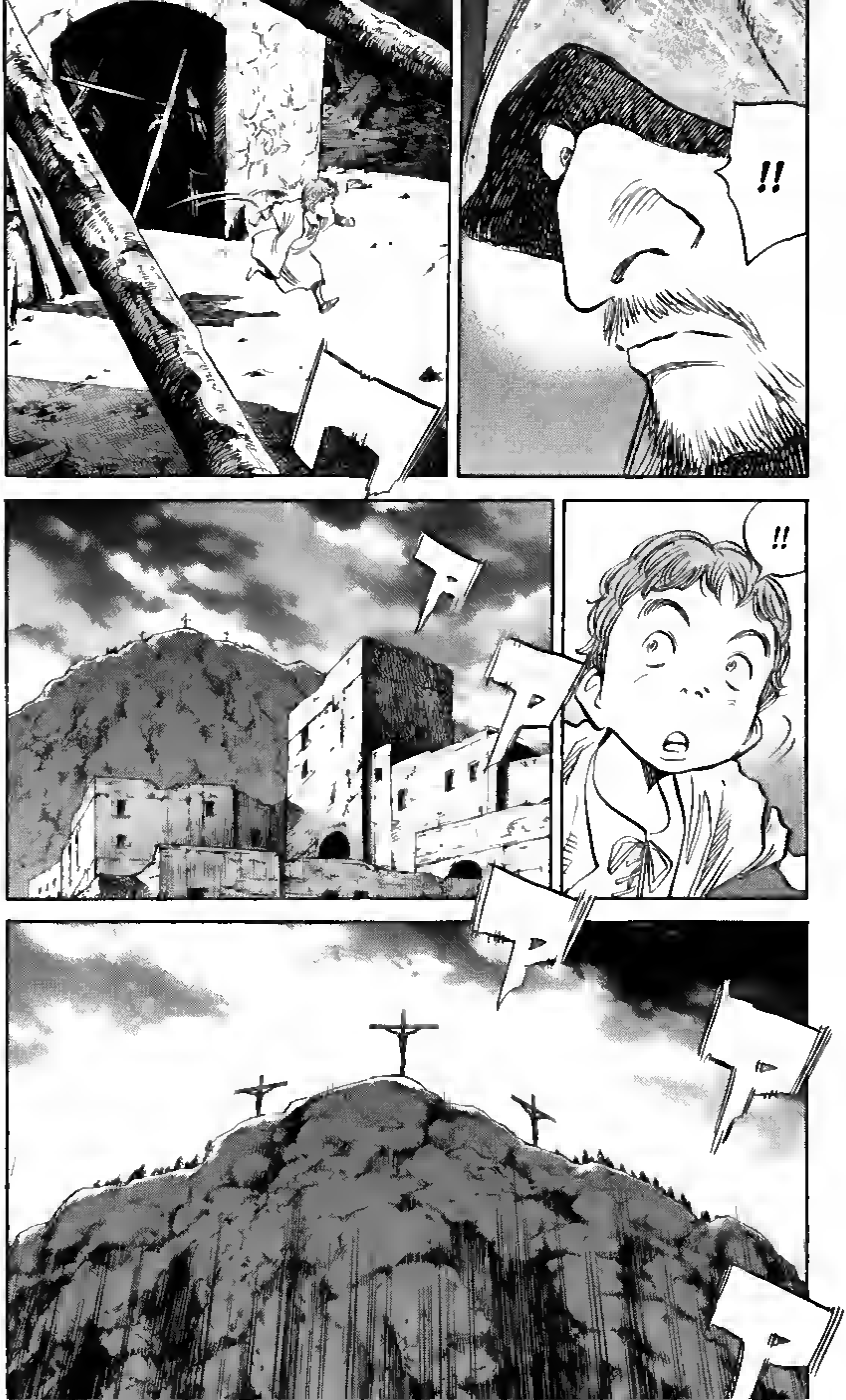
kari kari

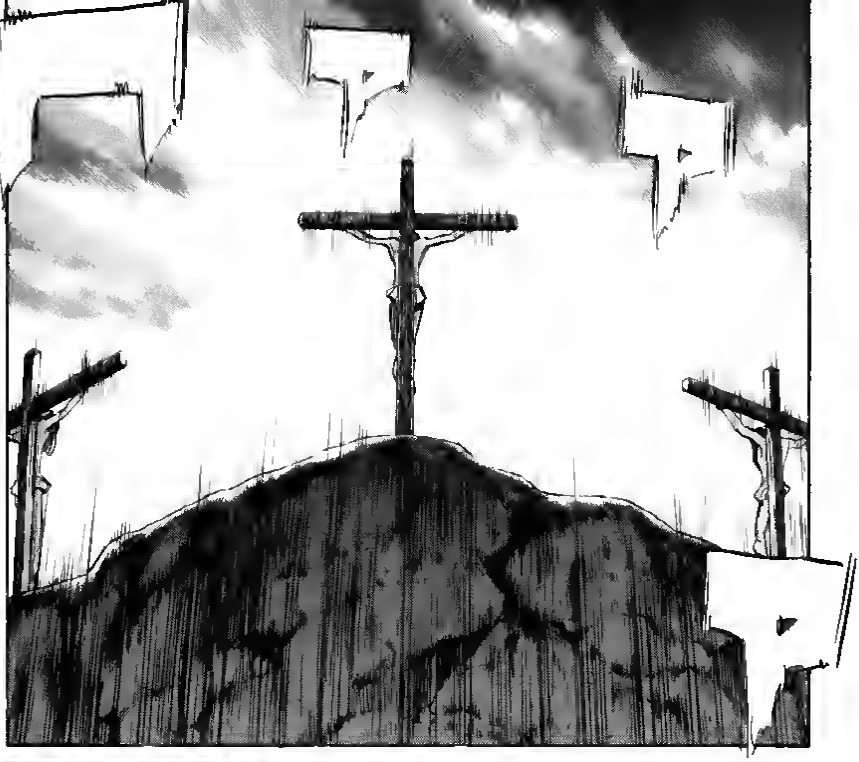
TH...
THIS IS...
ZA ZAH
THAT IS WHEN I FIRST MET THE MAN...
YOU ARE...
I...
And then, I..

I SOLD HIM OUT!!
IN EXCHANGE FOR THIS MONEY...
AHHHHHH!!
THE BREAD...
EAT IT...
Uu...
Uu...
Uu...

I'LL BRING YOU LEFTOVERS FROM MY DINNER TOMORROW AS WELL.
YOUR DINNER BREAD, HUH...?
YEAH, I'M FINE WITH JUST BEANS.
WHY ...
DO YOU HELP ME...?
MOM ALWAYS TELLS ME,
THAT I SHOULD HELP OUT THOSE IN NEED!
UU... UUU...
DON'T CRY ANYMORE ...
HEY, CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
HM...?
kachi kachi

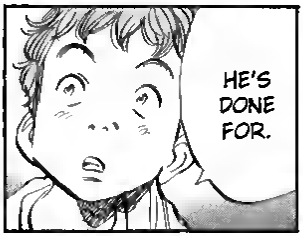

I CANNOT TELL YOU THAT...
kaki kaki
THAT MAN ...
WHAT KIND OF SHAPE OF THE LORD DID HE DRAW?
TCH! COME ON!
YOU AREN'T GONNA TELL ME?
OH WELL! I'LL STILL BRING YOU BREAD TOMORROW ANYWAY.
STAY HERE, ALRIGHT?





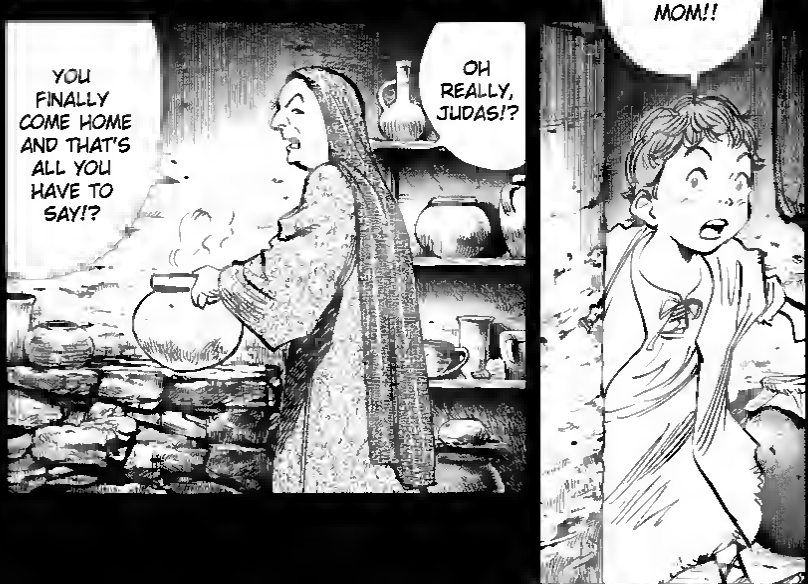
IS THIS ...?

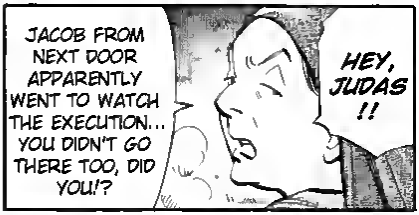
WHAT ...


HE'S DONE FOR.

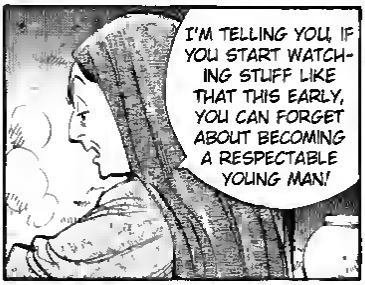
I'M HOME!!
BOY AM I HUNGRY, MOM!!
WELCOME HOME, JUDAS.

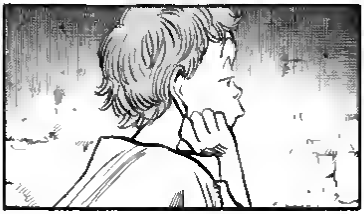
Chapter 15
Father, Son, or Holy Ghost?




JACOB FROM NEXT DOOR APPARENTLY WENT TO WATCH THE EXECUTION... YOU DIDN'T GO THERE TOO, DID YOU!?
HEY, JUDAS !!

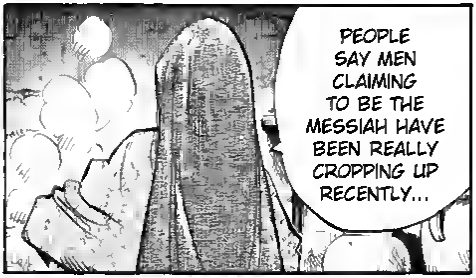
WHERE DID YOU WANDER OFF TO AT A TIME LIKE THIS, ANYWAY?
ALWAYS PLAYING AROUND OUTSIDE, NEVER HELPING AROUND THE HOUSE...


I'M TELLING YOU, IF YOU START WATCHING STUFF LIKE THAT THIS EARLY, YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT BECOMING A RESPECTABLE YOUNG MAN!



NOPE, I DIDN'T GO...

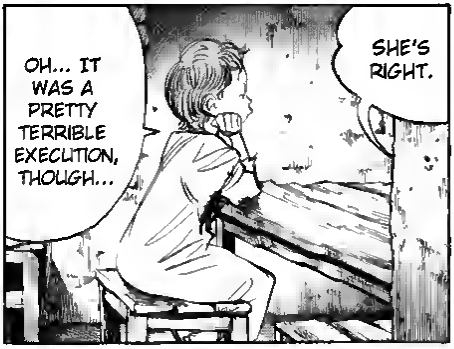
YOU MEAN TODAY'S WASN'T THE MESSIAH?


PEOPLE SAY MEN CLAIMING TO BE THE MESSIAH HAVE BEEN REALLY CROPPING UP RECENTLY...

I DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING.

EH?

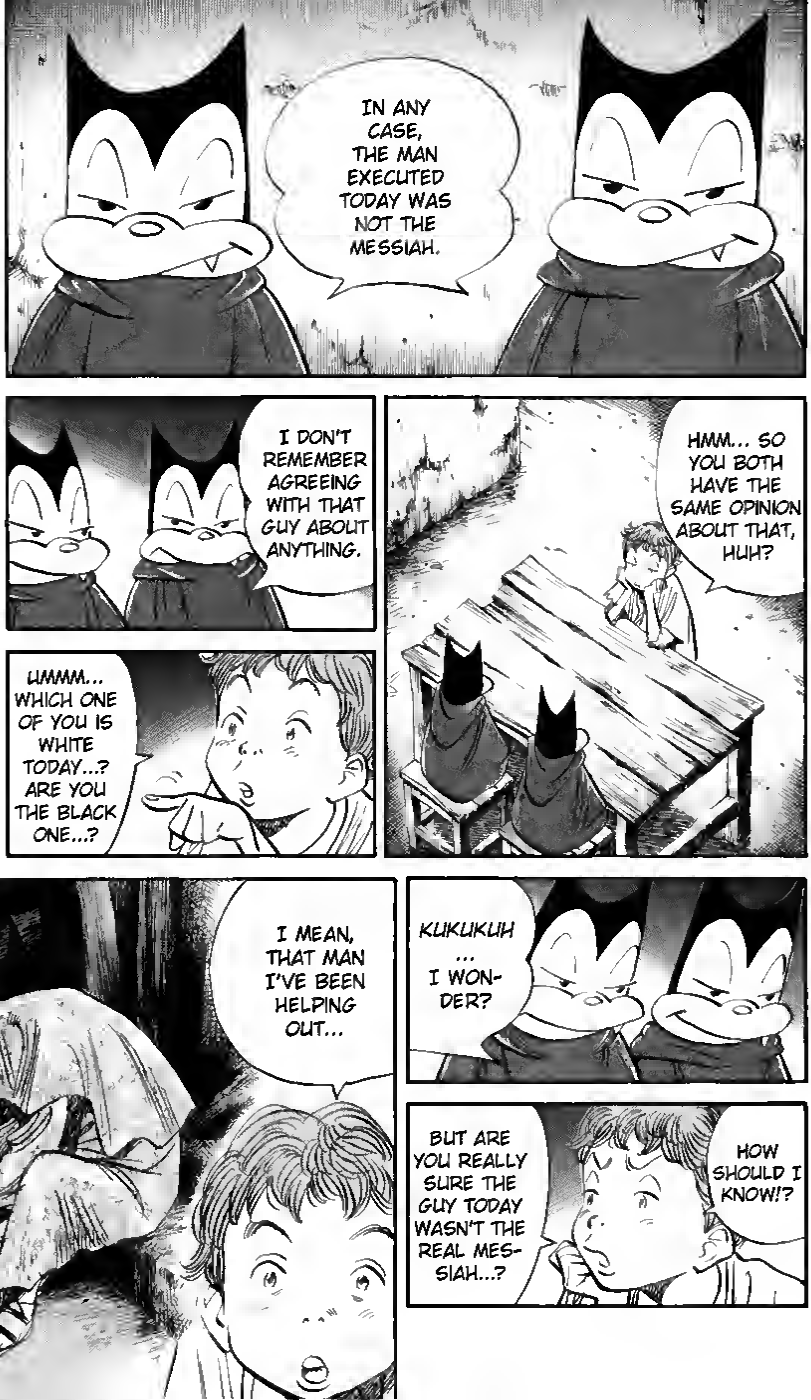
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU?


OH... IT WAS A PRETTY TERRIBLE EXECUTION, THOUGH...
SHE'S RIGHT.

WHAT'S THAT!?
SERIOUSLY, YOU'D BETTER NOT BELIEVE THAT GUY.

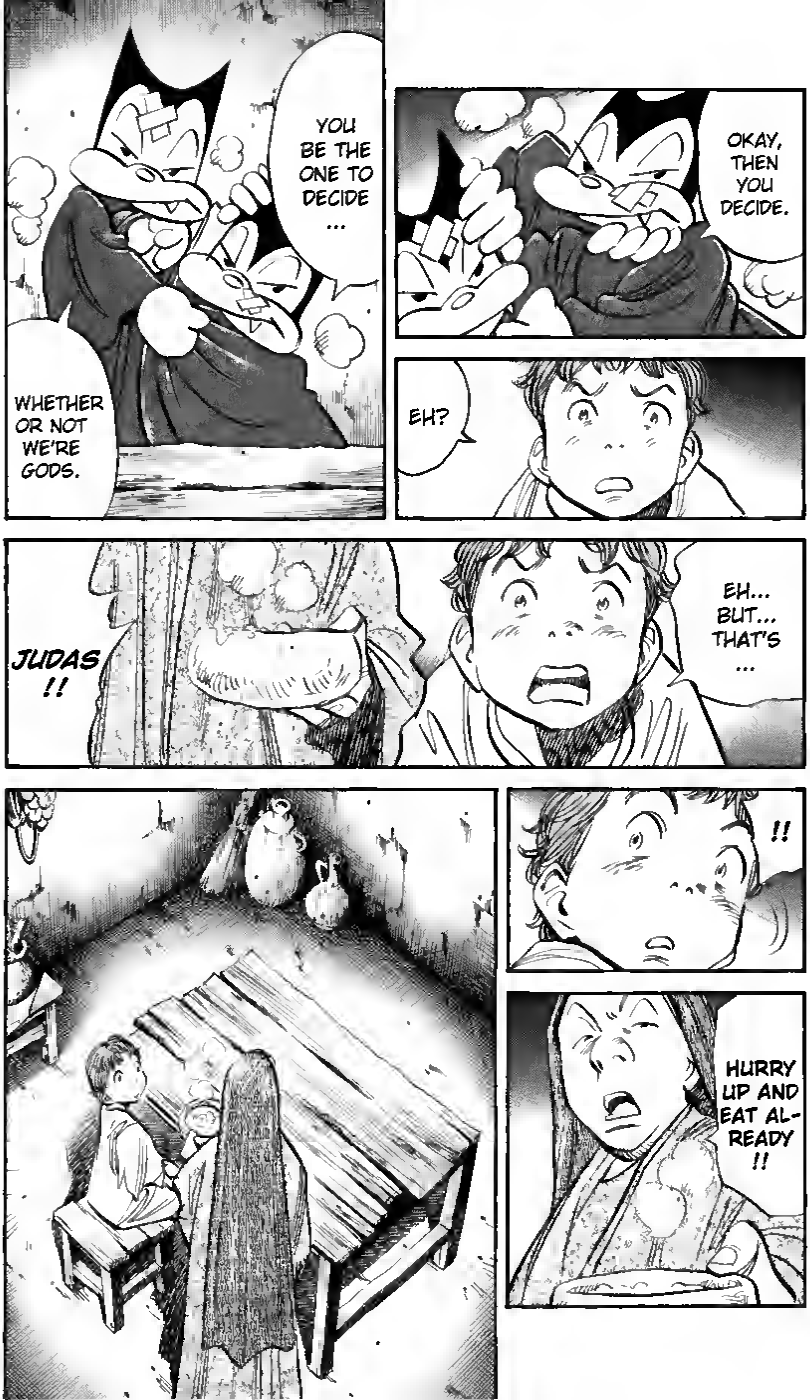
"THE ANOINTED ONE" HASN'T FULLY APPEARED YET.

Chapter 15: Father, Son, or Holy Ghost?

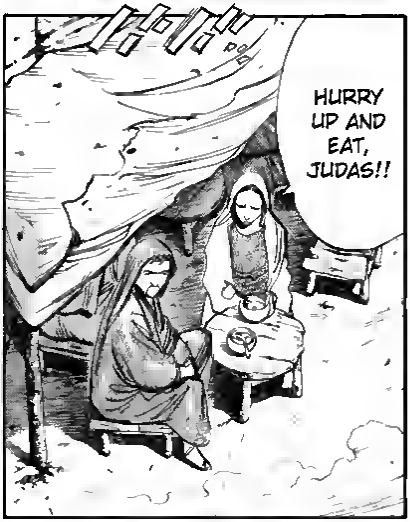

IN ANY CASE, THE MAN EXECUTED TODAY WAS NOT THE MESSIAH.
I DON'T REMEMBER AGREEING WITH THAT GUY ABOUT ANYTHING.
HMM... SO YOU BOTH HAVE THE SAME OPINION ABOUT THAT, HUH?
UMMM... WHICH ONE OF YOU IS WHITE TODAY...? ARE YOU THE BLACK ONE...?
I MEAN, THAT MAN I'VE BEEN HELPING OUT...
KUKUKUH ... I WONDER?
BUT ARE YOU REALLY SURE THE GUY TODAY WASN'T THE REAL MESSIAH...?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW!?

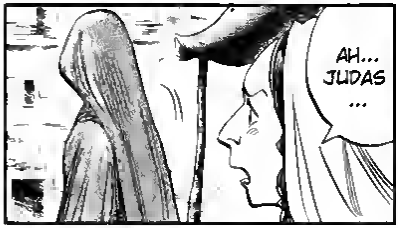
HE SAID THE MESSIAH WAS EXECUTED,
BECAUSE HE SOLD HIM OUT.
STUFF LIKE THAT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.
MOST OF THE EXECUTIONS EVERY MONTH COME ABOUT FROM THOSE KIND OF STORIES.
HMMMM ... IS THAT SO...
DID YOU GO DRAW SOME WATER LIKE I ASKED!?
!!
JUDAS!!

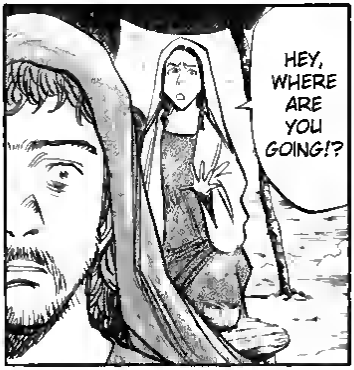
HEY, UH, CAN I ASK YOU A QUES-TION?
HOOO...
AH... AHH, YEAH I ALREADY DID.
WHAT IS WITH THAT BOY...
ARE YOU GOD?
YES.
NO!
H... HEY, BE QUIET, OR MY MOM'S GONNA HEAR!!
WHAT'D YOU SAY, YOU LITTLE ...!!
STOP TALKING OUT OF YOUR ASS!!
ポカスカ


YOU BE THE ONE TO DECIDE ...
WHETHER OR NOT WE'RE GODS.
OKAY, THEN YOU DECIDE.
EH?
EH... BUT... THAT'S ...
JUDAS !!
!!
HURRY UP AND EAT AL-READY !!

THIS WIND IS GOING TO SUMMON UP A SAND-STORM.


HURRY UP AND EAT, JUDAS!!


AH... JUDAS ...

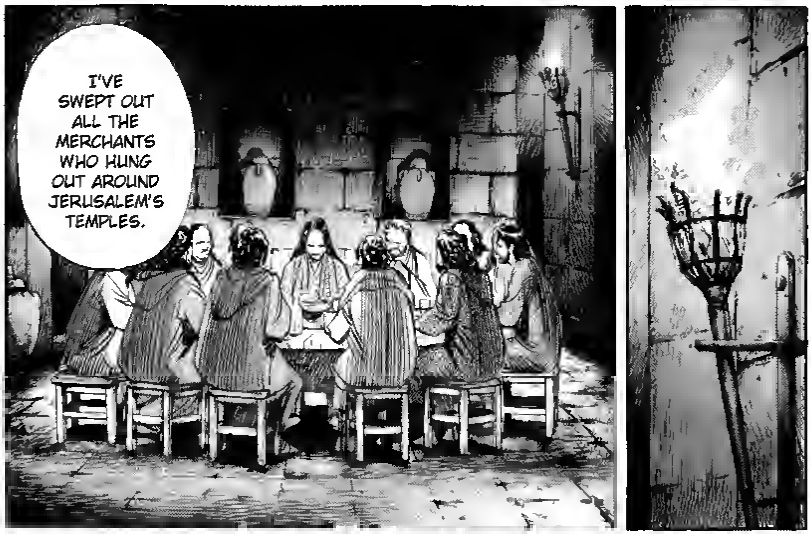

HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?

HUH

UM...
ARE YOU "THE ANOINTED ONE?"
IF YOU'VE SEEN GOD BEFORE, THEN WHAT IS THE SHAPE OF OUR LORD...?
TH-THIS IS...
Gah
Gah

Y... YOU TRULY ARE THE MESSIAH ...!!
MY... NAME IS JUDAS ISCARIOT !!

sfx: Dosha-aaan
sfx: Dogah
sfx: Gashaaaan
sfx: Brrrrih
sfx: Gohhhh


I'VE SWEPT OUT ALL THE MERCHANTS WHO HUNG OUT AROUND JERUSALEM'S TEMPLES.

THE ROMAN ARMY WILL MOST LIKELY CHASE ME UNDER THE FALSE PRETENSES THAT I AM A BANDIT OR A THIEF.

AND ALSO, I TELL YOU THAT ONE OF YOU WILL BETRAY ME, SOMEONE WHO IS EATING WITH ME RIGHT NOW.
IS IT ...?
WHO ...
IT IS THE ONE I WILL GIVE THIS BREAD TO WHEN I HAVE DIPPED IT.

GO QUICKLY AND DO WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO.

ZAH
ZAH
ZAH

ZAH
ZAH
ZAH

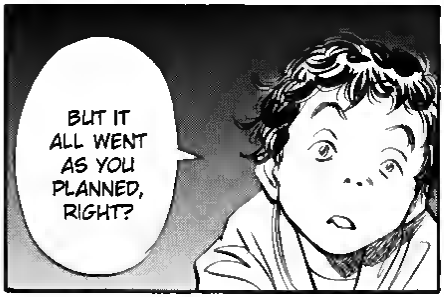
WHICH MAN IS IT!?

ZAH
ZAH
ZAH
ZAH
ZAH

WHAT'S WRONG, MISTER?

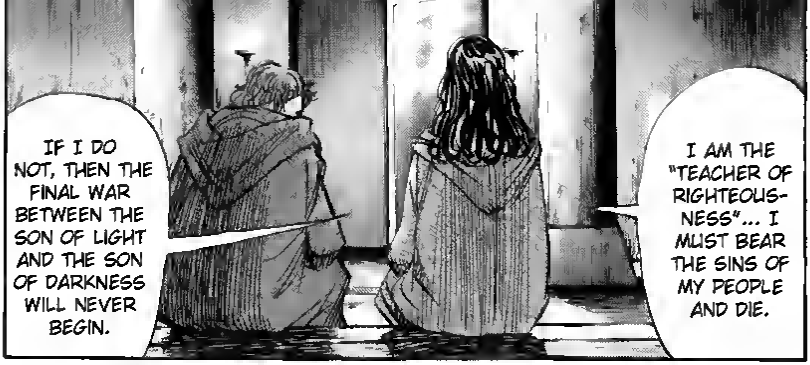
AHHHHHH!!

I... I...
Sold Him out!!


BUT IT ALL WENT AS YOU PLANNED, RIGHT?

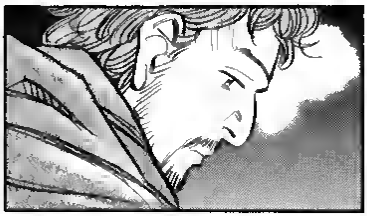
HM MMM ...

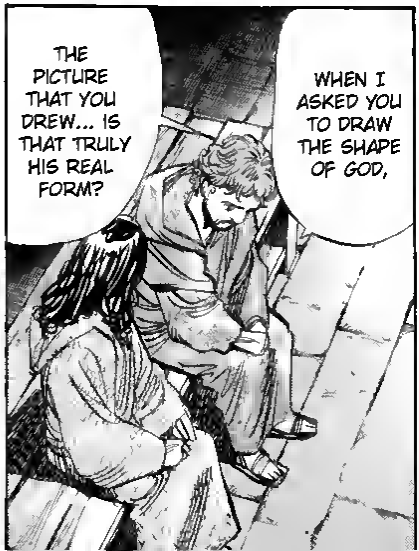
EH ...?


I AM THE "TEACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS"... I MUST BEAR THE SINS OF MY PEOPLE AND DIE.
IF I DO NOT, THEN THE FINAL WAR BETWEEN THE SON OF LIGHT AND THE SON OF DARKNESS WILL NEVER BEGIN.

IN ORDER FOR THAT TO HAPPEN, YOU MUST SELL ME OUT TO THE ROMAN SOLDIERS.

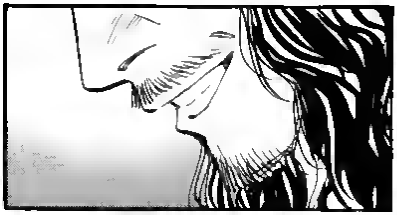
DO YOU UNDERSTAND? JUDAS ...

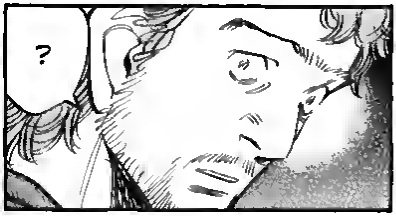


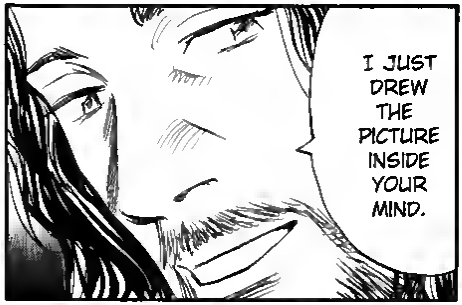

WHEN I ASKED YOU TO DRAW THE SHAPE OF GOD,
THE PICTURE THAT YOU DREW... IS THAT TRULY HIS REAL FORM?

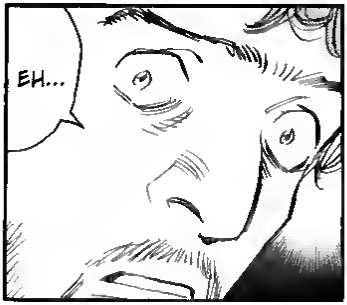
CAN ...
CAN I JUST ASK YOU ONE QUESTION?

I JUST DREW WHAT WAS INSIDE YOUR HEAD.




?


I JUST DREW THE PICTURE INSIDE YOUR MIND.


EH...

IF THAT BAT ISN'T GOD ...!!

HE KEPT TELLING ME OVER AND OVER AGAIN TO BETRAY HIM!!
ISN'T THAT GOOD, THOUGH? THEN HE'LL BECOME ETERNAL IN THE EYES OF ALL HUMANS.
WHO ...?
ARE YOU ...?
KU KU KUH ...
KU KU KUH ...

Has He...
Met with you ....!?
NOT ONCE.
AND YOU MERELY FOLLOWED MY ORDERS.
THAT'S ENOUGH.
WHAT'S WRONG, MISTER?

INRI

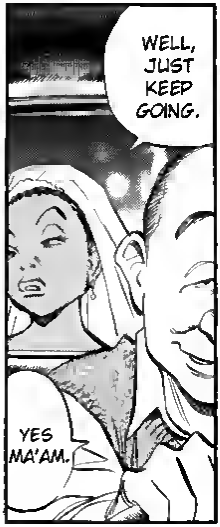
NEW YORK,
1959——
GRAND CENTRAL STATION
...

TAXI

NAH... IT'S JUST, THERE'S A DEMONSTRATION HAPPENING ON THE WAY TO GRAND CENTRAL.
WE'LL HAVE TO GO AROUND IT.

HUH?

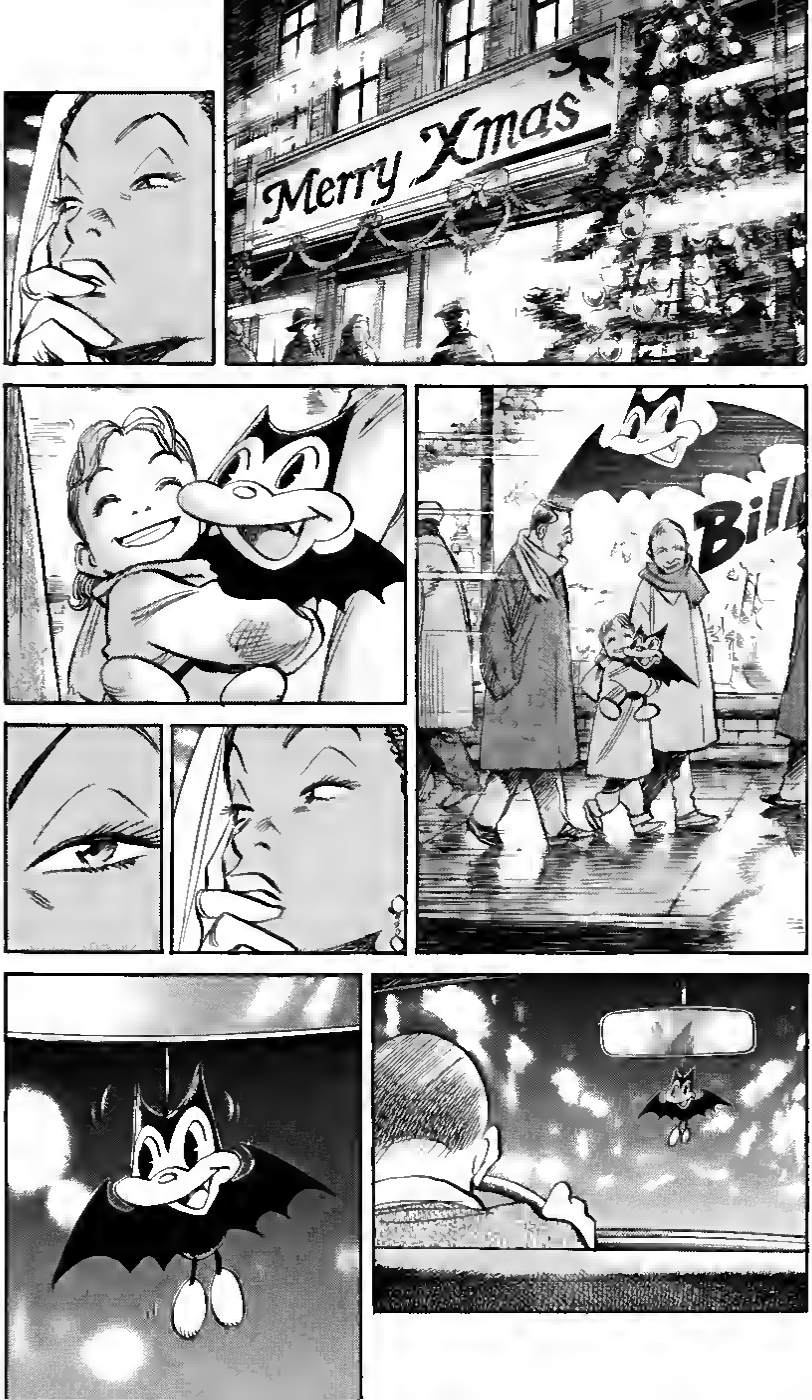
IT'S PRETTY THICK OUT THERE.


WELL, JUST KEEP GOING.
YES MA'AM.

AND THE WHITE FOLKS' IS OVER HERE.
THANKS TO THEM, TRAFFIC'S HEAVY ALL OVER.

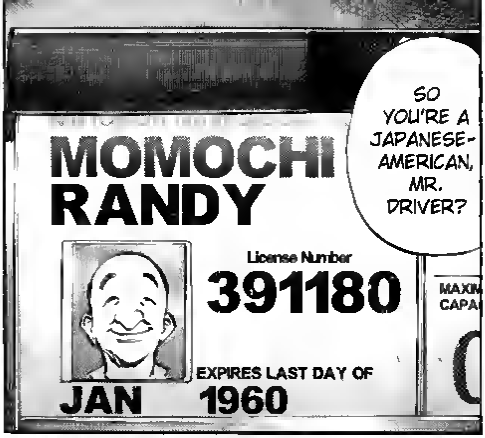
DEMON-STRA-TION...?

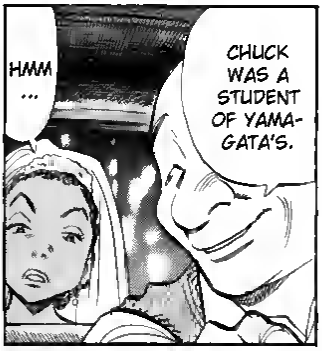
YEAH, THE NATIONAL RIGHTS MOVE-MENT.
THE BLACK FOLKS' DEMON-STRATION IS THAT WAY,

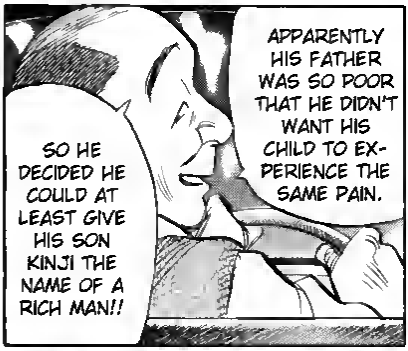

Merry Xmas
Bill

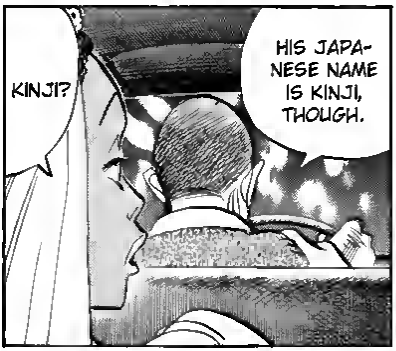
MY DAUGHTER LIKES HIM.
YOU LIKE THAT THING TOO, MR. DRIVER?
EH... AH, OL' BILLY HERE?
HMPH! THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS.
WHEN I GET LOST, HE TELLS ME WHERE TO GO.
NAVI-GATE?
HE HELPS ME NAVIGATE, TOO.
AND THEIR UNDERLINGS ARE ALWAYS BLACKS, OF COURSE!!
THE CRIMINAL IN THOSE BILLY BAT COMICS IS ALWAYS A SOVIET OR CHINESE SPY...
I HATE HIM.
OH REALLY? NOW I DON'T HEAR THAT ONE TOO OFTEN.

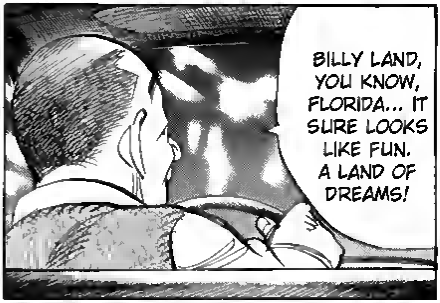
TAXI
WHAT?
BUT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS, MISS?
IN COMEDIES, BLACK GALS ONLY EVER APPEAR AS MAIDS.
AHHH, THAT'S TRUE, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT.
LOOKED MORE LIKE A COOL GUY.
HE HAD SMALLER EYES, YOU KNOW,
HUH?
THE OLD BILLY WASN'T LIKE THAT.
WRONG-O!
THE TRUE AUTHOR IS KEVIN YAMAGATA, A JAPANESE-AMERICAN JUST LIKE ME.
DO YOU KNOW THE NAME OF BILLY BAT'S AUTHOR?
EVERY-ONE KNOWS THAT.
CHUCK CULKIN.


MOMOCHI
RANDY
License Number
391180
EXPIRES LAST DAY OF
JAN 1960
SO YOU'RE A JAPANESE-AMERICAN, MR. DRIVER?


HMM ...
CHUCK WAS A STUDENT OF YAMAGATA'S.


APPARENTLY HIS FATHER WAS SO POOR THAT HE DIDN'T WANT HIS CHILD TO EXPERIENCE THE SAME PAIN.
SO HE DECIDED HE COULD AT LEAST GIVE HIS SON KINJI THE NAME OF A RICH MAN!!


KINJI?
HIS JAPANESE NAME IS KINJI, THOUGH.


BILLY LAND, YOU KNOW, FLORIDA... IT SURE LOOKS LIKE FUN. A LAND OF DREAMS!

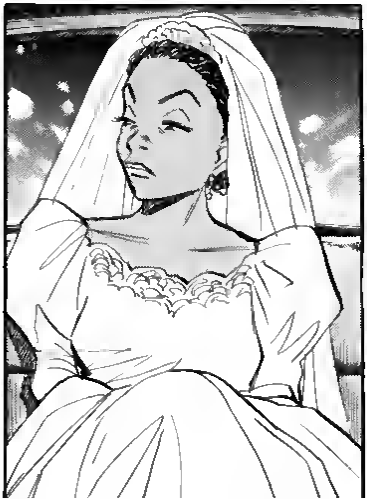
HMPH! WHAT A JOKE!!

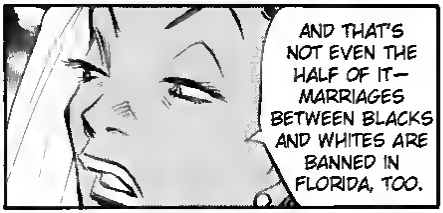
GO WHERE?
AHHH... IF I HAD SOME CASH, I'D REALLY LIKE TO GO...

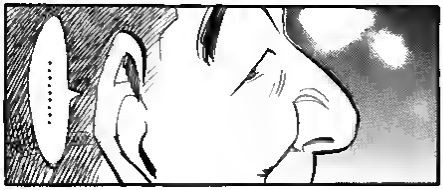
BLACKS CAN'T EVEN STEP A FOOT INSIDE!
WELCOME TO Billyl
SOME LAND OF DREAMS ALRIGHT ...

IT'S JUST THE SAME AS BLACKS NOT BEING ABLE TO RIDE IN WHITE BUSES.

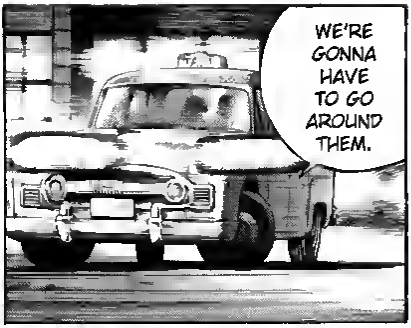
'ZAT TRUE?

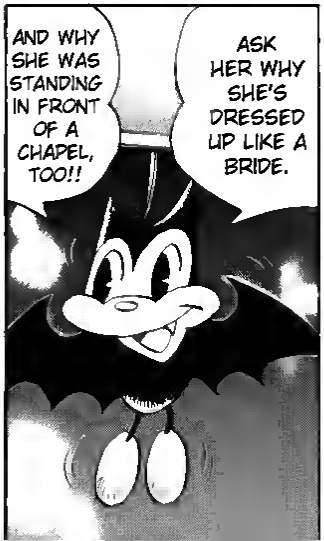



AND THAT'S NOT EVEN THE HALF OF IT— MARRIAGES BETWEEN BLACKS AND WHITES ARE BANNED IN FLORIDA, TOO.


.....

HEY LOOK, IT'S THE DEMONSTRATION!!
JOBS FOR ALL NOW!!
WE DEMAND DECENT HOUSING
JOBS FOR ALL!
WE PROTEST SCHOOL SEGREGATION
WE PROTEST SCHOOL SEGREGATION


WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO GO AROUND THEM.


ASK HER WHY SHE'S DRESSED UP LIKE A BRIDE.
AND WHY SHE WAS STANDING IN FRONT OF A CHAPEL, TOO!!

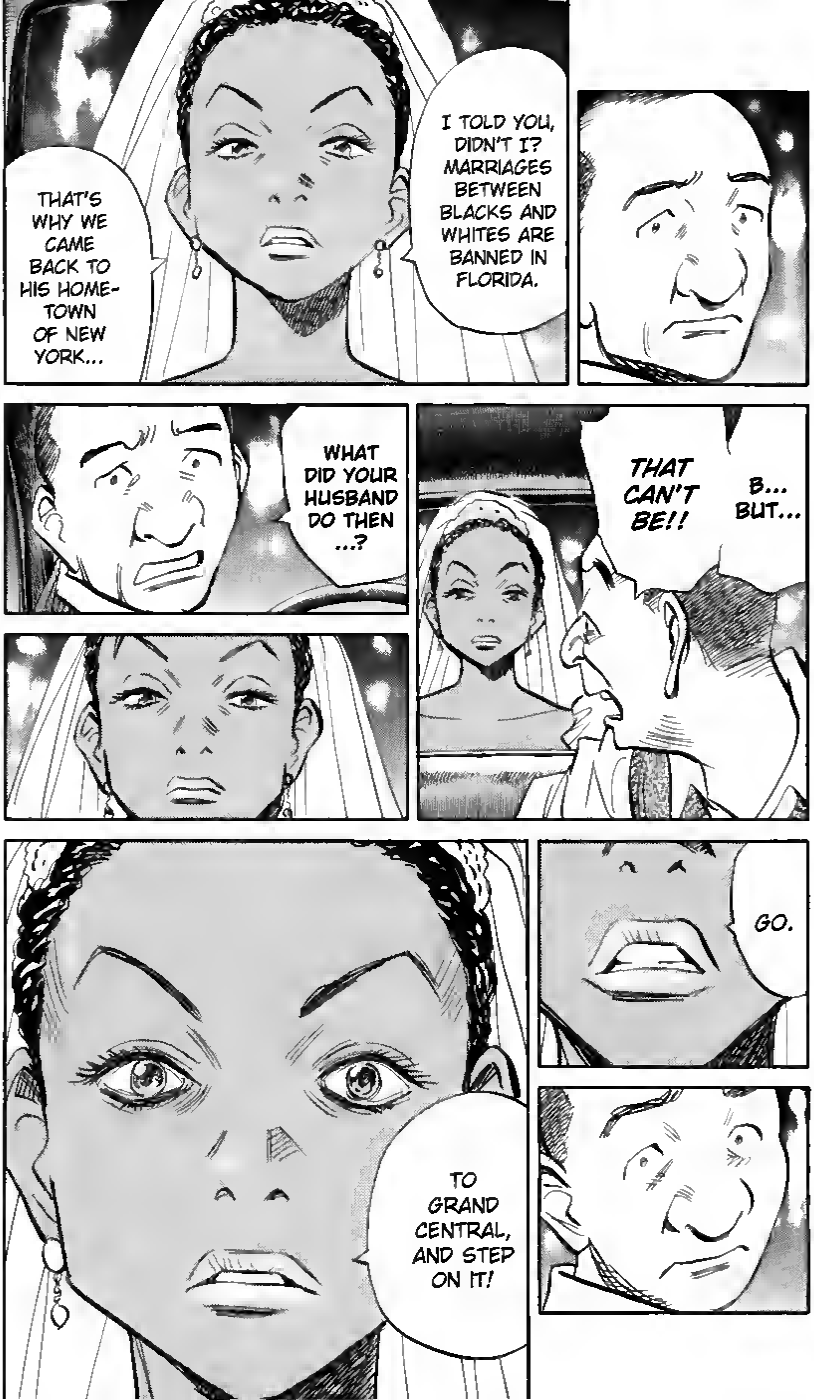
LISTEN UP.
EH!?

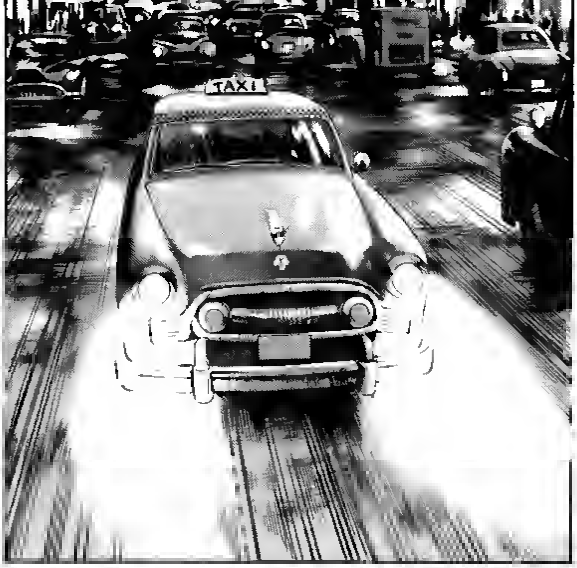
.....

HEY!!
.....
MORE IMPORT-ANTLY, TELL ME HOW TO GET OUT OF THIS TRAFFIC JAM.
HEY, NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR THAT.
AREN'T YOU CURIOUS ...?
ERM... HMMM... HOW IS SHE, AGAIN ...?
UH ...
HOW OLD IS SHE?
EARLIER YOU SAID YOUR DAUGHTER LIKED BILLY, RIGHT?
I... SEE.
AH...
YOU AL-RIGHT?
AHH... UMMM ...
IT'S JUST THAT, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO... OR, HAVEN'T BEEN ALLOWED TO MEET HER...
YEAH ...

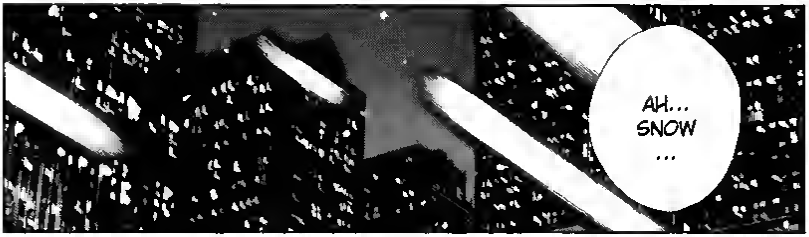
MARRIED LIFE...
IT'S A BIT DIFFICULT, YOU KNOW ...
HOW SHOULD I EXPLAIN IT...
NAH... WELL...
YOU THINK A LONE WOMAN RIDING A TAXI DRESSED LIKE THIS IS WONDERFUL?
WHOOPS...!! I SHOULDN'T BE SAYING THAT TO A PERSON DRESSED AS WONDERFULLY AS YOU, NOW SHOULD I!?
OF MY OWN WEDDING ...
I WAS FORCED OUT...

HE'S WHITE.
TH... THAT'S A CHAPEL THE RICH USE FOR THEIR WEDDINGS, RIGHT?
"WE OBJECT TO THIS WED-DING," THEY SAID.
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SERVICE, HIS FAMILY RAISED THEIR VOICES.
THEY REFUSE TO ACCEPT A BLACK BRIDE.
AND EVERYONE AGREED.


I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I? MARRIAGES BETWEEN BLACKS AND WHITES ARE BANNED IN FLORIDA.
THAT'S WHY WE CAME BACK TO HIS HOME-TOWN OF NEW YORK...
WHAT DID YOUR HUSBAND DO THEN ...?
B... BUT...
THAT CAN'T BE!!
GO.
TO GRAND CENTRAL, AND STEP ON IT!


TAXI

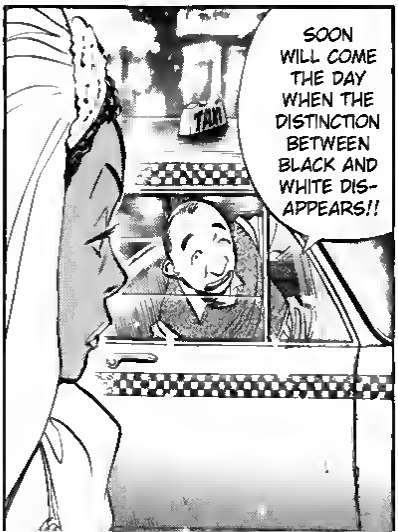
YES MA'AM ...


AH... SNOW ...

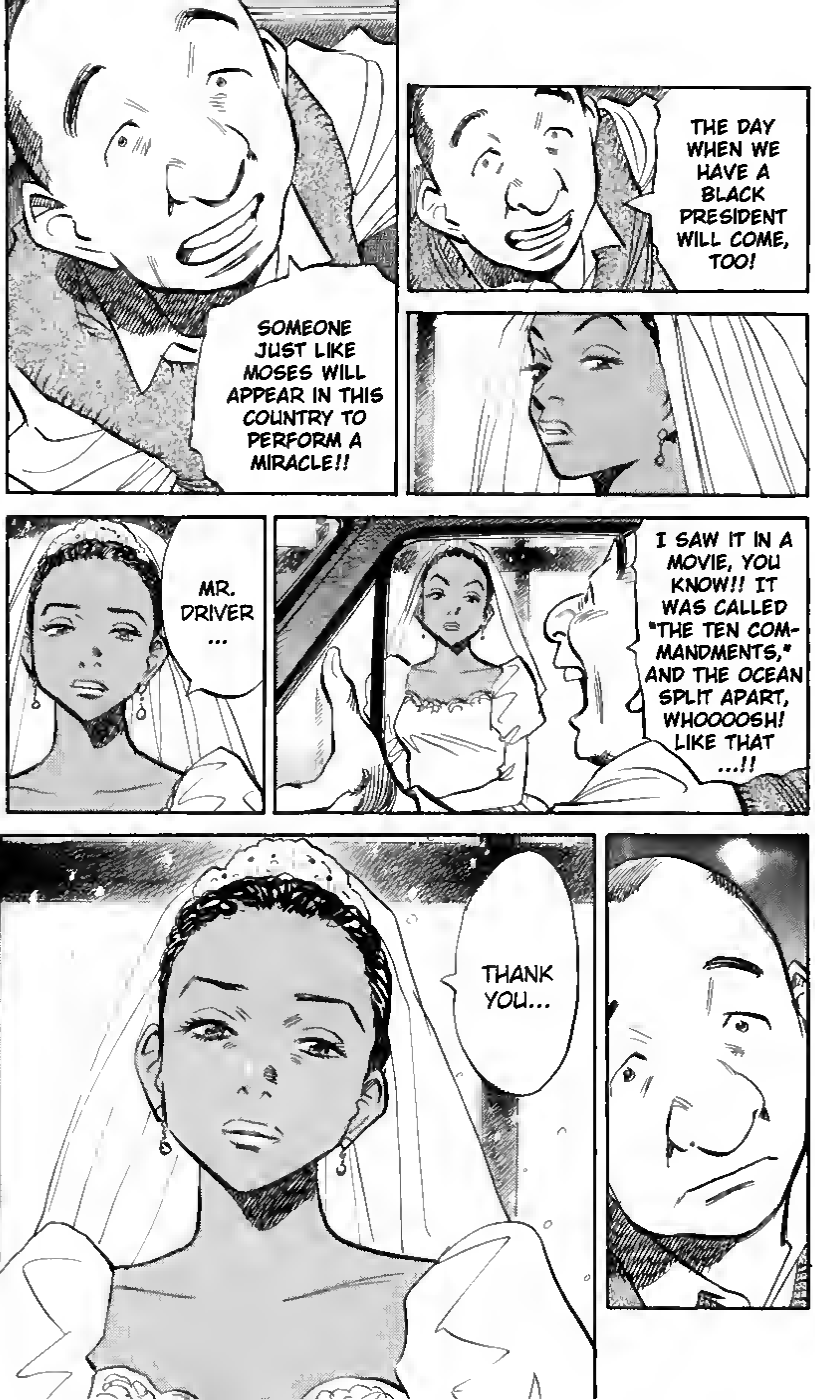
THANKS, MR. DRIVER.

BE CAREFUL NOT TO CATCH A COLD, DEAR.

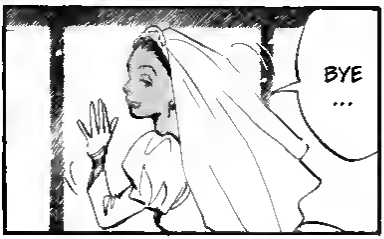
AHH... UM...

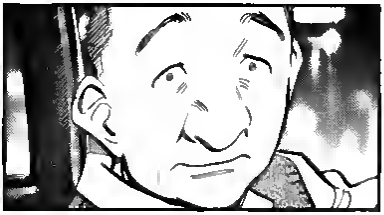

SOON WILL COME THE DAY WHEN THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE DIS-APPEARS!!
TAXI

I'M SURE THINGS WILL WORK OUT!!

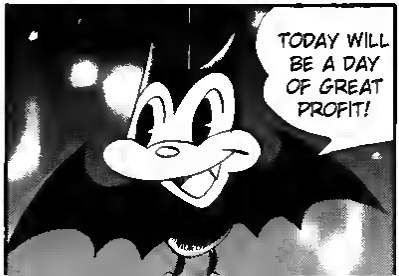

SOMEONE JUST LIKE MOSES WILL APPEAR IN THIS COUNTRY TO PERFORM A MIRACLE!!
THE DAY WHEN WE HAVE A BLACK PRESIDENT WILL COME, TOO!
MR. DRIVER ...
I SAW IT IN A MOVIE, YOU KNOW!! IT WAS CALLED "THE TEN COMMANDMENTS," AND THE OCEAN SPLIT APART, WHOOOOSH! LIKE THAT ...!!
THANK YOU...

YOU'LL STILL BE ABLE TO SEE YOUR DAUGHTER AGAIN.
YOU KNOW, MR. DRIVER, EVEN IF NO MIRACLES HAPPEN...


BYE ...



HURRY UP AND MOVE IT!

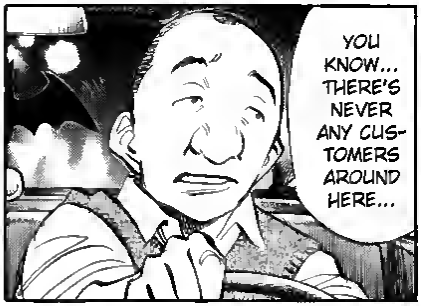

TODAY WILL BE A DAY OF GREAT PROFIT!

YOU SAID YOURSELF THAT I'M YOUR NAV-IGATOR, DIDN'T YOU?
YEAH, YEAH...
YOU REALLY NEED TO LEARN SOME MANNERS, YOU KNOW...
10 P

WHO CARES? JUST TURN RIGHT.

WHAT? BUT IF WE TURN RIGHT ...

LOOK, ANOTHER DEMON-STRA-TION.
BOYCOTT
BACK TO THE TREES
RACE MIXING
WHO NEEDS N'IGGERS


YOU KNOW... THERE'S NEVER ANY CUS-TOMERS AROUND HERE...

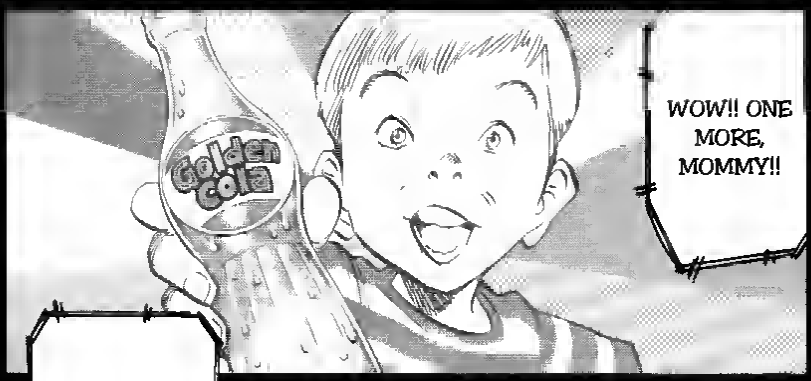
SURE ABOUT THAT?

WE'LL BE BACK AT THE CHAPEL.

WELL LOOK AT THAT... YOU'RE REALLY ON THE BALL TODAY!
TAXI
HAVE YOU BEEN DRIVING AROUND HERE FOR A WHILE?
WHERE TO?
MY BRIDE ...
HAVE YOU SEEN HER...?
HUH?

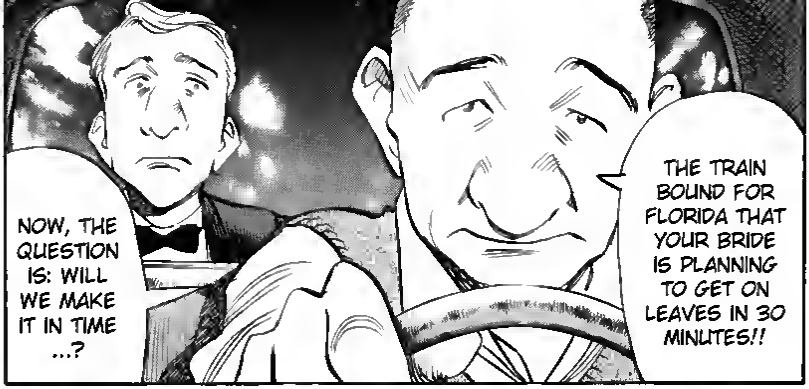
SHE'S A BLACK ...
HURRY UP AND GET IN !!
TAXI
EH... WH... WHAT?
WE STILL MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT!!

IT TASTES THAT GOOD~ ♫
SHIVERS WILL RUN DOWN YOUR THROAT~ ♫


Golden Cola
WOW!! ONE MORE, MOMMY!!

CRISP AND REFRESHING GOLDEN COLA~ ♫
Golden Cola

HMPH. GOLDEN COLA...
THE COMPANY THAT GOT A LATE START DUE TO SHARE WARS, BUT WAS FAVORED BY KHRUSHCHEV AND PERMITTED TO MONOPOLIZE THE MARKET IN THE SOVIET UNION...
WHAT ARE YOU TO GOLDEN COLA?
SON OF THE FAMILY WHO OWNS IT.
HOOOOOO ... YOUR PARENTS SHOULD'VE NAMED YA RICHIE...
AH, WHAT THE HEY. HOLD ON TIGHT!
UWAHH !!


THE TRAIN BOUND FOR FLORIDA THAT YOUR BRIDE IS PLANNING TO GET ON LEAVES IN 30 MINUTES!!
NOW, THE QUESTION IS: WILL WE MAKE IT IN TIME ...?

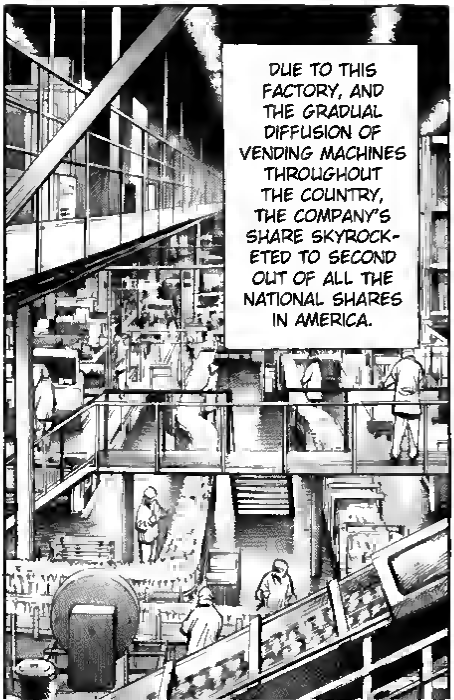
Chapter 17: After the Church

1955 - GOLDEN COLA OPENS A MASSIVE BOTTLING FACTORY IN FLORIDA —

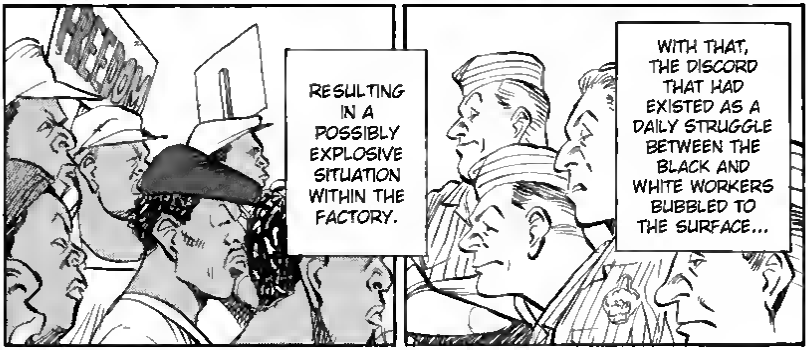
golde
cola

NO ENT

IT WAS NOT LONG BEFORE PROBLEMS AROSE, HOWEVER ...


DUE TO THIS FACTORY, AND THE GRADUAL DIFFUSION OF VENDING MACHINES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, THE COMPANY'S SHARE SKYROCKETED TO SECOND OUT OF ALL THE NATIONAL SHARES IN AMERICA.

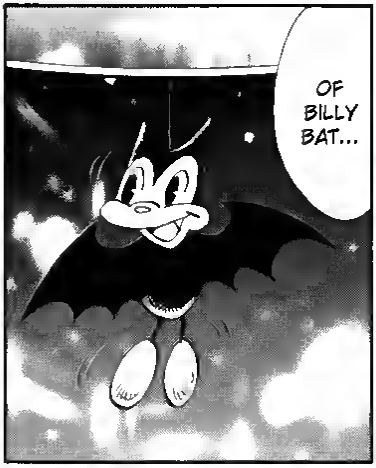
OPEN OUR FUTURE
EQUALITY
BLACK LABOR WORKERS BEGAN PROTESTING AGAINST DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT.


FREEDOM
RESULTING IN A POSSIBLY EXPLOSIVE SITUATION WITHIN THE FACTORY.
WITH THAT, THE DISCORD THAT HAD EXISTED AS A DAILY STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE BLACK AND WHITE WORKERS BUBBLED TO THE SURFACE...

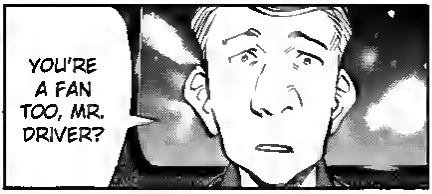
Um...
Er...
E-everyone, please listen...
Umm... umm...
IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS, I HAD THE POOR LUCK OF BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE FLORIDA FACTORY AS A REPRESENTATIVE MANAGER...

IT'S GONNA TAKE US SOME TIME TO REACH THE STATION.
TAXI

HMPH! PROTESTS THIS WAY TOO.
WE DEMAND DECENT HOUSING NOW!

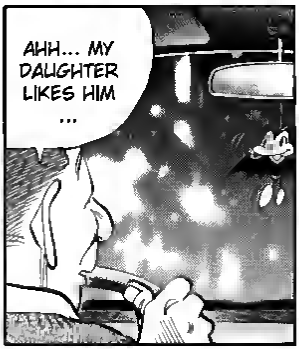

OF BILLY BAT...

AH ...
YOU REALLY MIGHT BE OUT OF LUCK HERE, PAL...


YOU'RE A FAN TOO, MR. DRIVER?

KEVIN YAMA-GATA!!

I LIKE THE OLD BILLY BETTER, THOUGH...


AHH... MY DAUGHTER LIKES HIM ...

THE RECENT BILLY THAT CHUCK CULKIN FELLOW DRAWS...
IT'S THE PITS!!
SEEMS LIKE YOU KNOW YOUR ONIONS, SIR.
OF COURSE! THE REAL BILLY IS THE ONE THAT KEVIN DREW!!
FLORIDA'S BILLY LAND IS TERRIBLE.
I'LL BET!!
AHAHAH! THAT'S WHAT I LIKE TO HEAR!!
HEY, ASK HIM!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN ...
THERE'S NO POINT IN AN AMUSEMENT PARK THAT PROHIBITS BLACKS FROM ENTERING...

I WANTED TO BECOME A CARTOONIST MYSELF.
EH?
ASK HIM WHEN HE HOOKED UP WITH HIS BRIDE!
WATCH YOUR MOUTH!
OH REALLY ...?
I WAS THINKING OF GOING TO EUROPE AND BECOMING A CARTOONIST THERE...
e-everyone, p-please calm... down..
F-for the time being,
NOT TO MENTION HAVING TO QUELL DEMONSTRATIONS...
THERE'S NOTHING GLORIOUS ABOUT BEING A MANAGER ...

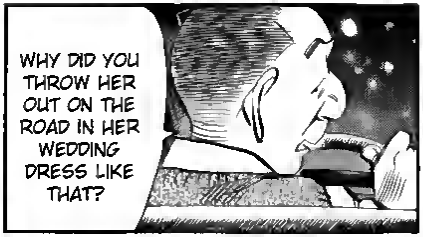
SHUT UP, WHITEY !!
N.. no, I'm just the representative manager..
ARE YOU ON THE NIGGERS' SIDE, MANAGER !?
THEY'RE MISBEHAVING BECAUSE YOU'RE ACTING LIKE SUCH A LILLY-LIVERED FOOL!!
GET DOWN OFF THERE !!
WHY CAN'T WE FEED OUR FAMILIES, EVEN THOUGH WE WORK MORE THAN THE CRACKERS!?
LET US EAT IN THE SAME CAFETERIA !!
WE AIN'T GONNA LET YOU PUSH US AROUND ANYMORE !!
H'LEEE !!
WAAAAAAHHHH !!
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE! GIT 'EM!!
WAIT ...!!
WA... WAIT...
SHUT UP, NIGGERS!! KNOW YOUR PLACE!!

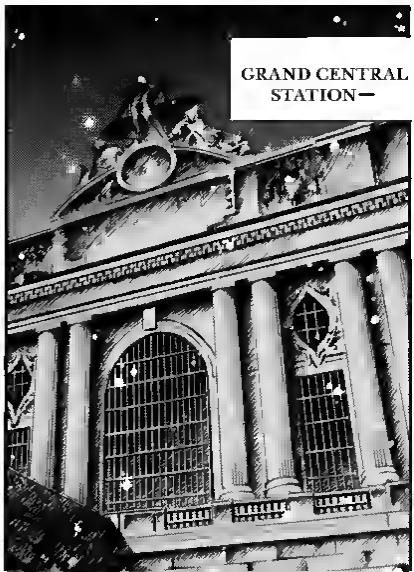
ENOUGH ALREADY !!
IF WE TURN THIS PLACE INTO A SLAUGHT-ERHOUSE ...
WHO CARES IF YOU'RE BLACK OR WHITE!?
IF YOU THINK I'M LYIN', THEN GO AHEAD AND GIVE IT A TRY!!
ONLY RED BLOOD WILL RUN!!

ALL HARD WORKERS BEING MANIPULATED BY THESE GUYS!!
!!
golden cola
ARE ALL CO-WORKERS!!
WE...
RIGHT?
I FELL IN LOVE ...

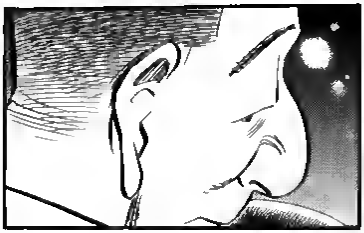
WHY DIDN'T YOU STAND UP AND SAY SOMETHING WHEN YOUR FAMILY OBJECTED TO YOUR MARRIAGE, THEN?

IT...
ALWAYS ENDS UP LIKE THAT...


WHY DID YOU THROW HER OUT ON THE ROAD IN HER WEDDING DRESS LIKE THAT?


GRAND CENTRAL STATION—

I'VE GOT NO GUTS...



AH... YES...
YOUSE... DA ONE WHO BOUGHT A TICKET TO FLORIDA JUS' NOW?

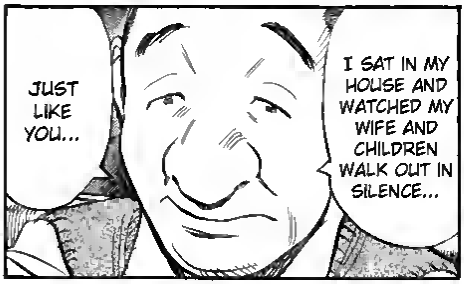
N' IF YA STAY HERE, DA DEMONSTRA-TORS'LL COME... COULD BE TROUBLE.

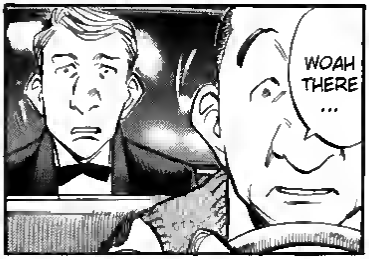
IF'N YA DON' GO OUT DER NOW, DA TRAIN'S GONNA LEAVE.

THANK YOU...

I...
CAN'T GIVE YOU ANY ADVICE MYSELF, THOUGH.

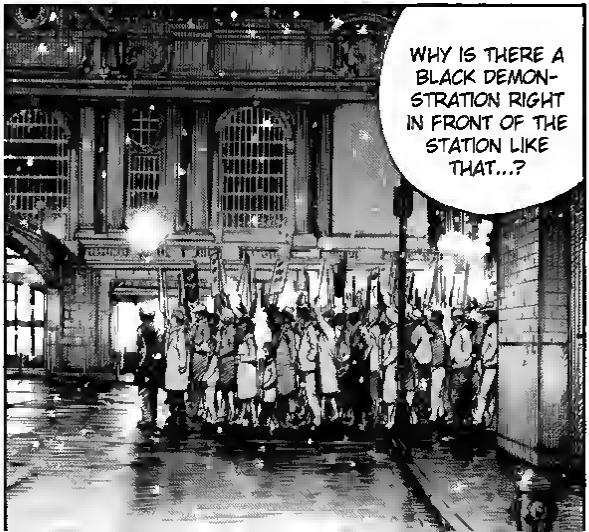
TAXI


I SAT IN MY HOUSE AND WATCHED MY WIFE AND CHILDREN WALK OUT IN SILENCE...
JUST LIKE YOU...


WOAH THERE ...

I DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH GUTS...

HUH... WHAT THE?


WHY IS THERE A BLACK DEMONSTRATION RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE STATION LIKE THAT...?

The white demonstrators are coming from the other side!!
W-woah, this doesn't look too good!!
Forget about cutting through... t-this is going to turn into a lynch...!!
If we don't watch out, we'll become a part of it...
Wh... what should I do, sir?
TURN BACK.
I GUESS I DON'T HAVE IT IN ME, AFTER ALL...

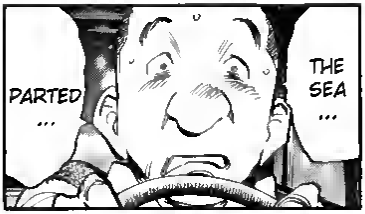
LUCK DOESN'T COME TO MEN WITH NO COURAGE ...
YUP... EXACTLY.
THAT'S THE TRUTH, ALRIGHT.
A MIRACLE LIKE THE SEA PARTING FROM MOSES' "TEN COMMANDMENTS" WON'T COME TO US...
GO.
EH ...?
YOU SAID I'M YOUR NAVIGATOR, DIDN'T YOU?

Haa
Haa
JUST GO ALREADY! IF YOU FOLLOW WHAT I SAY, NO ONE WILL DIE.
THEN GO THROUGH, LIKE I'M TELLING YOU TO!!
IF I DRIVE THROUGH THERE COUNTLESS PEOPLE WILL DIE!!
G... GIMME A BREAK!!
WE'RE GOING THROU-GH!!
MR. DRIVER !!
FINE THEN ...
Haa
Haa
Vorvum
MR. DRIVER ...?
EH ...?
TAXI

TH... THAT'S ...
MR. DRIVER ...!!
RIGHT!!
LEFT!!
RIGHT!!
G...
PLEASE, GO THROUGH THEM!!
GO!!

JOBS for
PEACE
FOR SCHOOL

I HAVE TO MAKE A MIRACLE HAPPEN TOO.


PARTED ...
THE SEA ...

NOW ...

ガッ
HEY, THAT'S THE LEFT!
WE'RE GONNA CASH IN BIG TODAY! NOW HEAD TO THE RIGHT!
IT WENT JUST LIKE I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T IT?
SEE?
.....
I'M GOING TO PICK THEM UP.
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?
I'M SERIOUS, TRUST ME ON THIS ONE! GO TO THE RIGHT!
NO, I'M GOING LEFT.

THE RIGHT, I'M TELLIN' YA!!
C'MON, GO TO THE RIGHT!
I'M GOING TO PICK UP MY WIFE AND CHILDREN.
WOAH, COOL IT THERE, PAL!
NUNUUU ... A MARKED STONE !!
OR LEFT !?
RIGHT !?

Shu Ta Taah
THAT MEANS IT'S A RIGHT ...!!
WHO IS THAT ...
AND WHAT BUSINESS DO THEY HAVE AT CASTLE MOMOCHI ...?

ZUZAZAZAZA
ZAH

HEY
YOU CRACKED MY HEAD OPEN!!
OVER-REACT-ING AS USUAL!
OWW WW!!
UU4!

AWWW, COME ON, SHIN-CHAN, THROWING STUFF IS COWARDLY!
YOU THINK YOUR HEAD WOULD BE SPLIT OPEN AFTER BEING HIT WITH A MERE THREAD BALL?
HEHEH! IF THIS HAD BEEN A REAL SHURIKEN, GEN-CHAN, THEN ABOUT NOW, YOU'D BE....
YOU'RE WIDE OPEN!!
OWWWW!!
WAHH!!
AND YOU'RE CALLING ME COWARDLY!?
HUH? WHERE'S KAN-CHAN AND GON-CHAN?
HEHEH! YOU'RE ALL MINE WHEN IT COMES TO CLOSE RANGE!
STO... OWWW, I GIVE!!

THOSE TWO REALLY ARE SOME-THING.
I WONDER IF IT'LL BE KAN-CHAN'S LEGS OR GON-CHAN'S SWORD THAT WINS TODAY...

ZAZAZAH

WAH!
HEHEH!
DAMMIT!
PRE-
PARE
YOUR-
SELF!!
OWWW
!!
WAH!
WAH,
WAH
...
WAH!

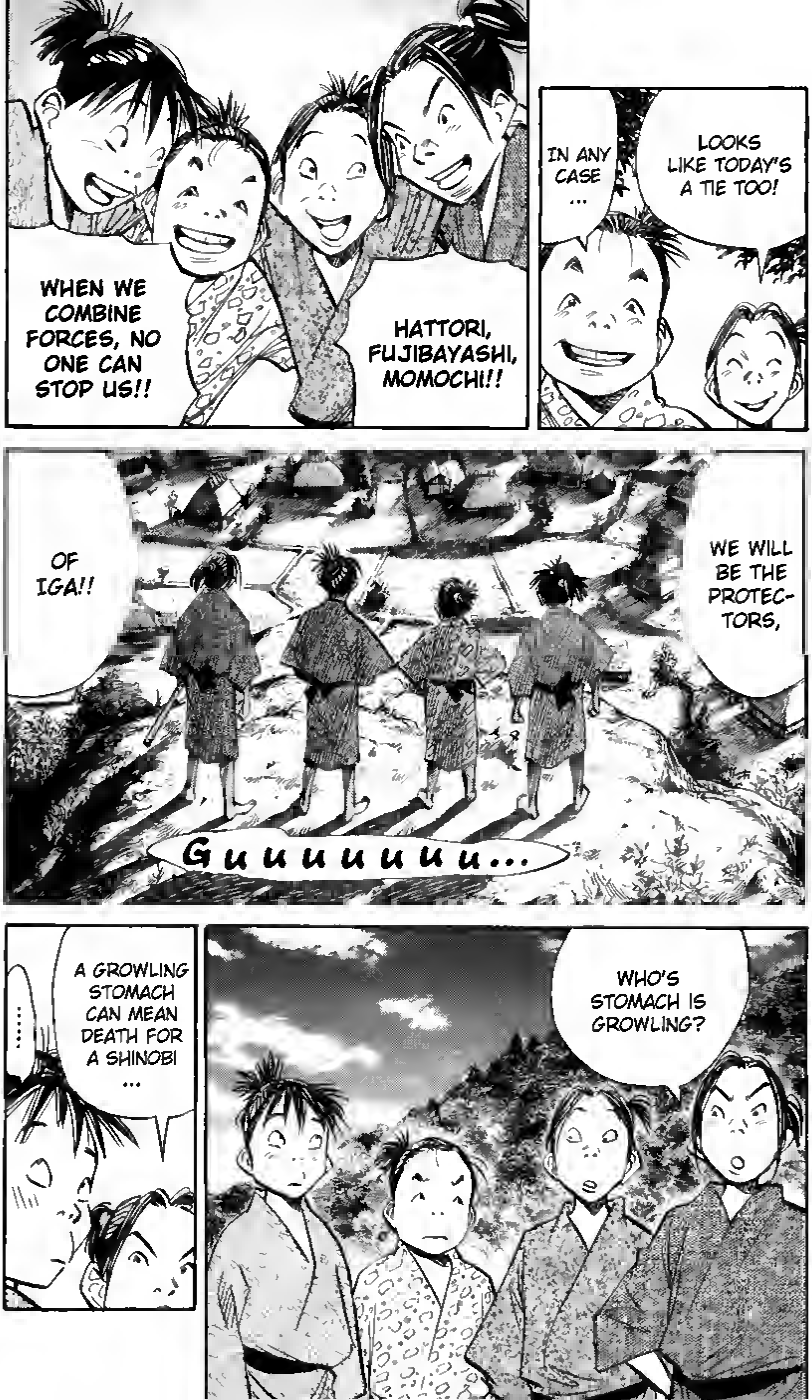
AHHHHHHH!!

Kun
!?

SO WHO WON, THEN?
ME, OF COURSE!

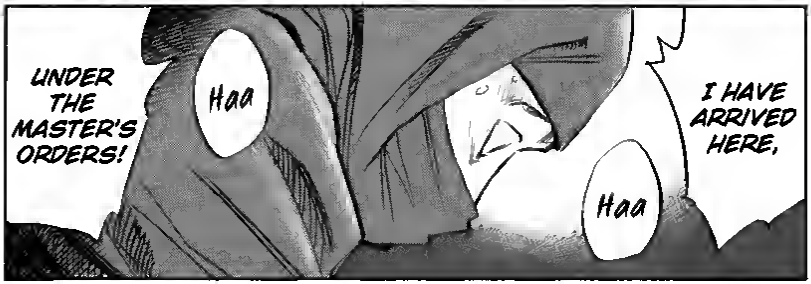
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I WON!! MY SWORD HIT YOU STRAIGHT ON THE HEAD!
IF I HADN'T BEEN STANDING THERE, YOU'D BE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CLIFF RIGHT NOW.

HAHAHAH!!

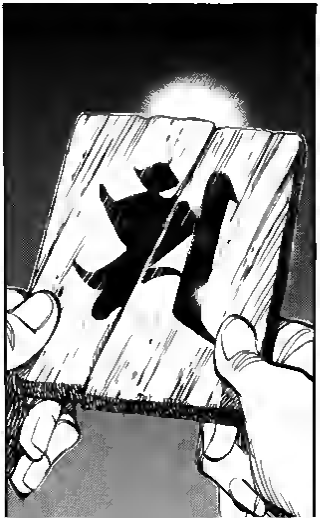

WHEN WE COMBINE FORCES, NO ONE CAN STOP US!!
HATTORI, FUJIBAYASHI, MOMOCHI!!
IN ANY CASE ...
LOOKS LIKE TODAY'S A TIE TOO!
OF IGA!!
WE WILL BE THE PROTEC-TORS,
Guuuuuuu...
A GROWLING STOMACH CAN MEAN DEATH FOR A SHINOBI ...
WHO'S STOMACH IS GROWLING?

Chapter 18 The Scroll of Momochi [1]

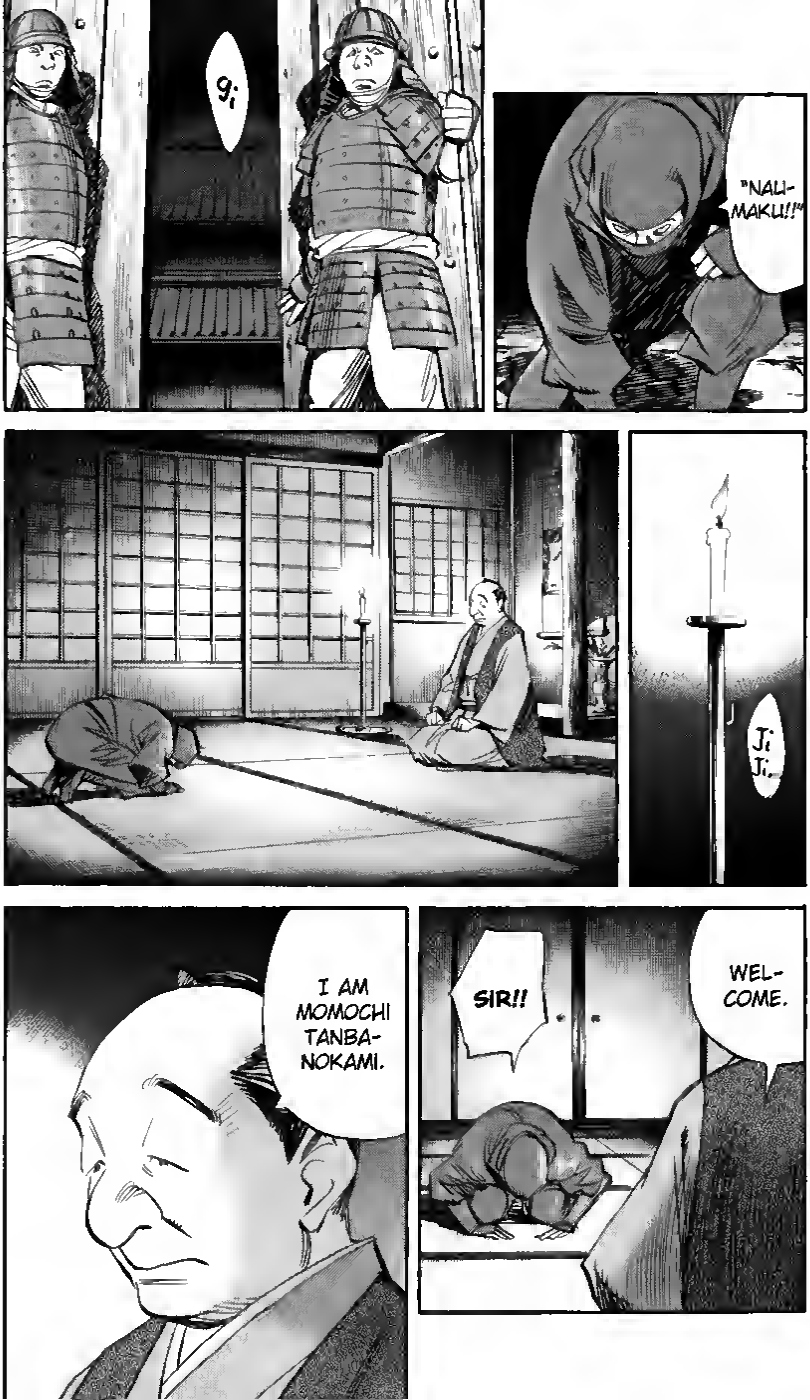
Haa
Haa
Haa


UNDER THE MASTER'S ORDERS!
Haa
I HAVE ARRIVED HERE,
Haa

THE CODE WORDS!! "ONBA-SARA!!"

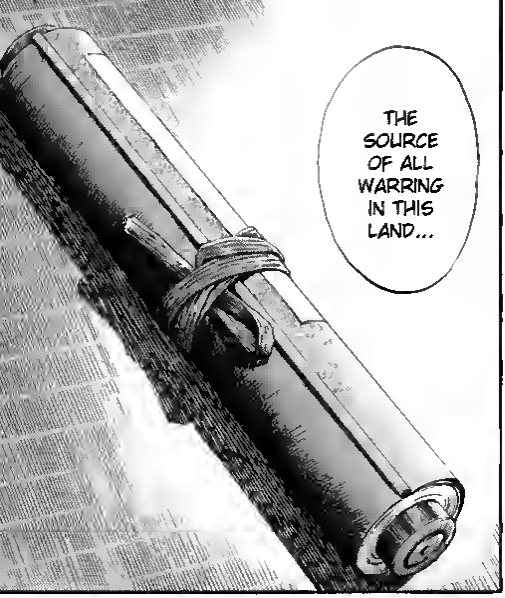


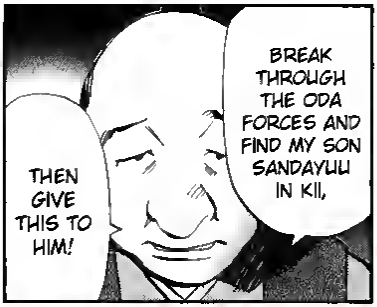
SHOW ME YOUR PASS!!


Gi
"NAU-
MAKU!!"
Ji
Ji...
I AM
MOMOCHI
TANBA-
NOKAMI.
SIR!!
WEL-
COME.

THE MAN FAMED AS THE GREATEST RUNNER IN IGA...
IS YOU, KANBEI.
AS YOU KNOW, OUR LAND OF IGA,
HAS BEEN COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY THE ODA FORCES.
OUR OPPONENT TWO YEARS AGO WAS NOBUNAGA'S SON, NOBUKATSU... NOT OUR ENEMY. MERELY A FOOL...
THIS TIME, HOWEVER, WE ARE UP AGAINST HIS FATHER.
BUT IT'S OUR 9,000 AGAINST ODA'S 60,000.
THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO EXECUTE A UNIFIED ATTACK FROM SIX DIFFERENT AREAS.
HORI TARAO
GAMO WAKIZAKA YAMAOKA
TANBA WAKEBE TAKIGAWA TOUDOU
TSUTSUI MATSUKURA
ASANO TODA SHINATSU
KITABATA ODA HIOKI YOSHIDA

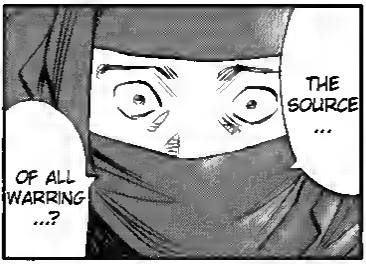
ADDITIONALLY, FUKUCHI IYO-NOKAMI, THE LORD OF ONE OF IGA'S CASTLES, AND MIMIZU YAJIROU FROM KAWAI VILLAGE HAVE BETRAYED US,
APPARENTLY HAVING BEEN BOUGHT OUT AS GUIDES TO IGA.
TARAO MITSUYOSHI OF KOUGA IS ALSO INVOLVED,
LEAVING US WITH NO IDEA AS TO WHO IS OUR ENEMY AND WHO IS OUR ALLY.
AT THIS RATE...
THE LAND OF IGA IS DOOMED.
IT IS HERE, KANBEI, THAT WE COME UPON YOUR ROLE...
THIS ...


THE SOURCE OF ALL WARRING IN THIS LAND...

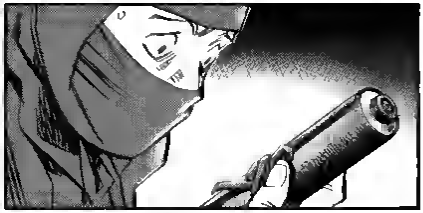

BREAK THROUGH THE ODA FORCES AND FIND MY SON SANDAYUU IN KII,
THEN GIVE THIS TO HIM!

WHAT IS IT...?

IF THIS SCROLL BECOMES OUT OF THEIR REACH, THEY WILL HALT THEIR ATTACK.


THE SOURCE ...
OF ALL WARRING ...?

YES SIR!!
EVERY-THING IS RESTING ON YOUR LEGS.



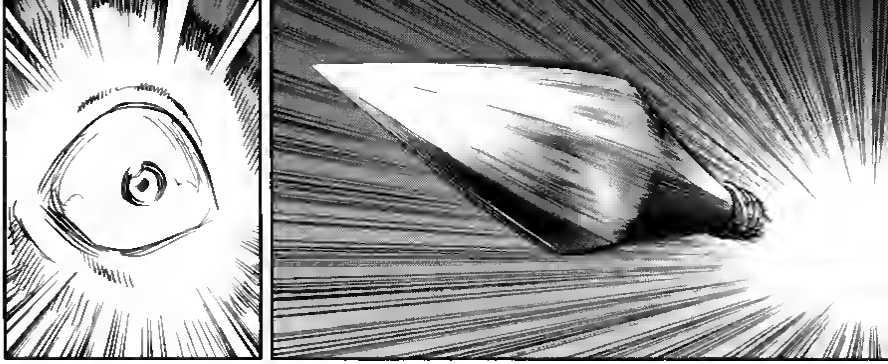
NOW GO, KANBEI.

SAVE THE LAND OF IGA!
ゴゴゴゴ
THE ROAD FROM MOMOCHI'S DOMINION TO THE SOUTH HAS ALREADY BEEN SURROUNDED BY THE ENEMY.
ZA ZAH
I'LL HAVE TO HEAD THROUGH FUJIBAYASHI AND HATTORI BEFORE MAKING IT UP TO THE NABARI RIVER.

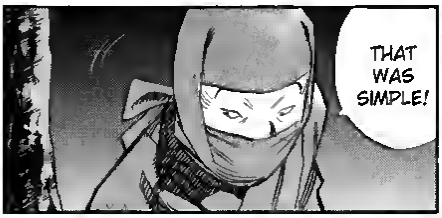
Haa
THEN FOLLOW THAT DOWN TO KII!!
Haa
A TRAP ...!!
!!
IS THIS ALL IN ORDER TO KEEP ME FROM RUNNING ...?
THEY'VE GOT THE ENTIRE FOREST RIGGED UP...

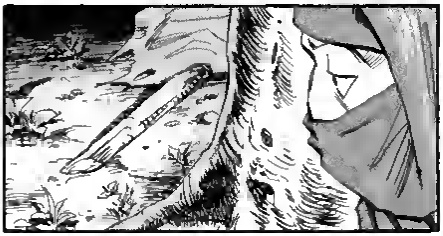
IF YOU CONCENTRATE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THE THREADS IN THE DARK WITH YOUR MIND'S EYE.
CONCENTRATE ...
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ENTER THE FOREST.
AND IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO CROSS THE FIELDS ...
THAT TOOK AN UNBELIEVABLE AMOUNT OF TIME.

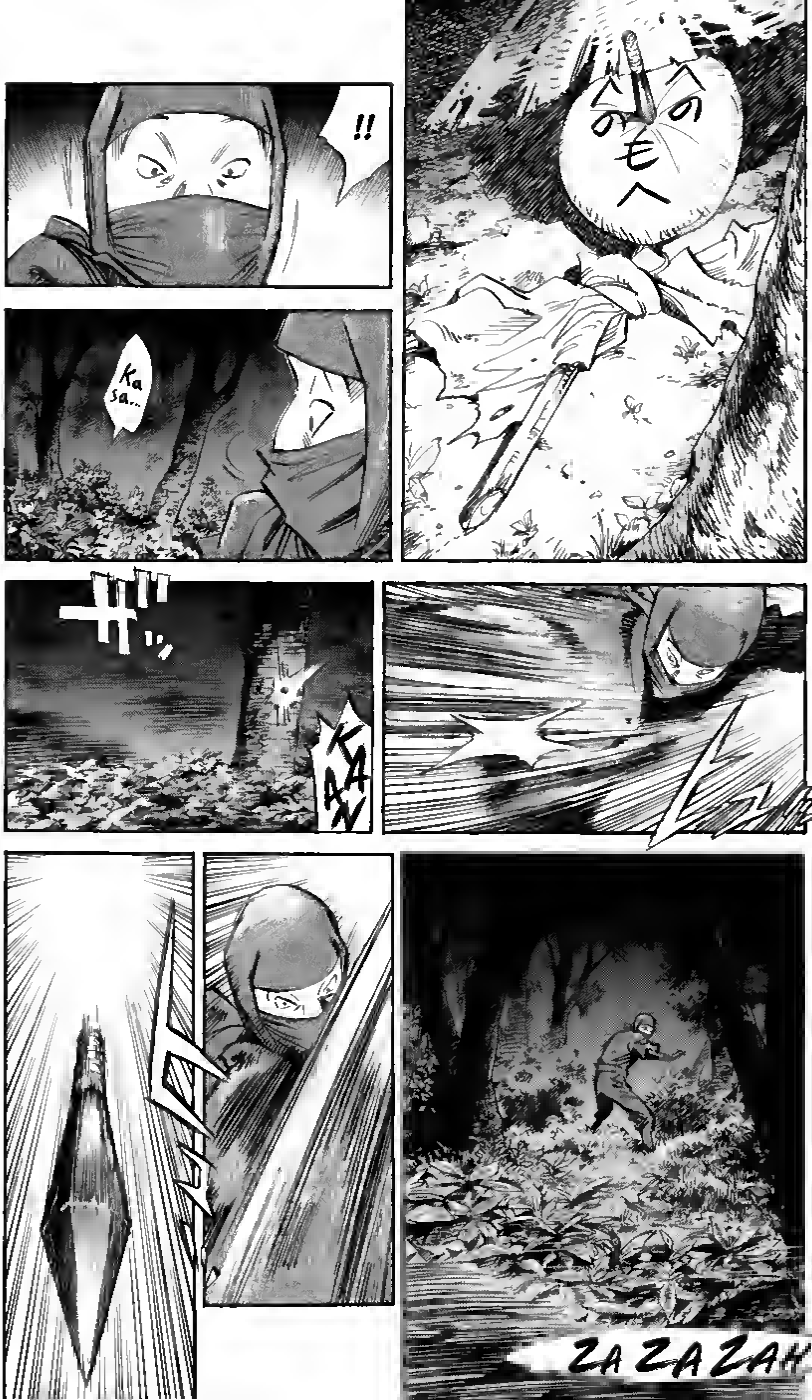
KASASASASASASAH
Haa
Haa
I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT MORE RATIONS ...
IF IT REQUIRES MORE TIME THAN THIS TO REACH KII, HOWEVER, I'LL BE TOO LATE...
KAAN
KAAN

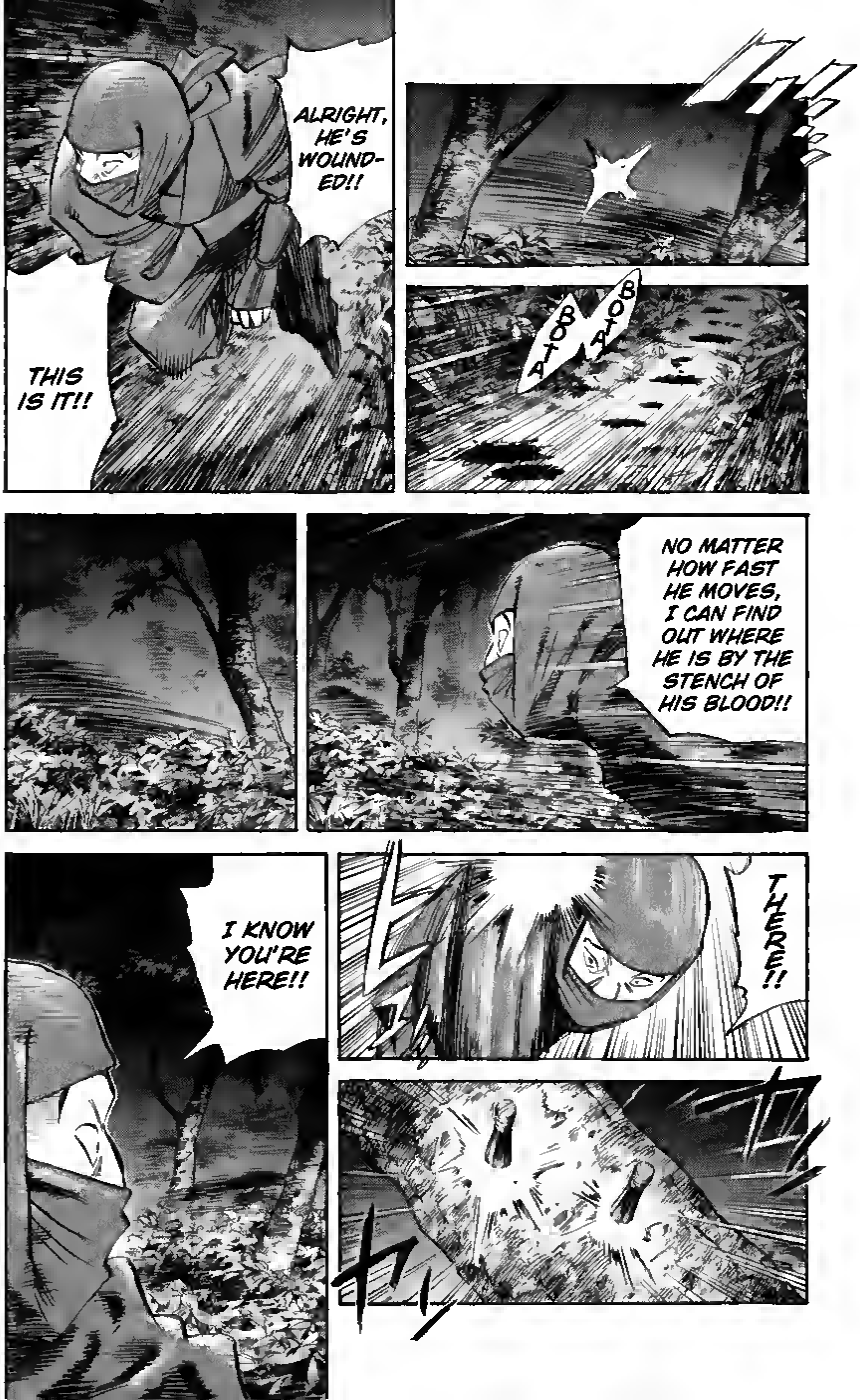


DO
SAH


THAT
WAS
SIMPLE!



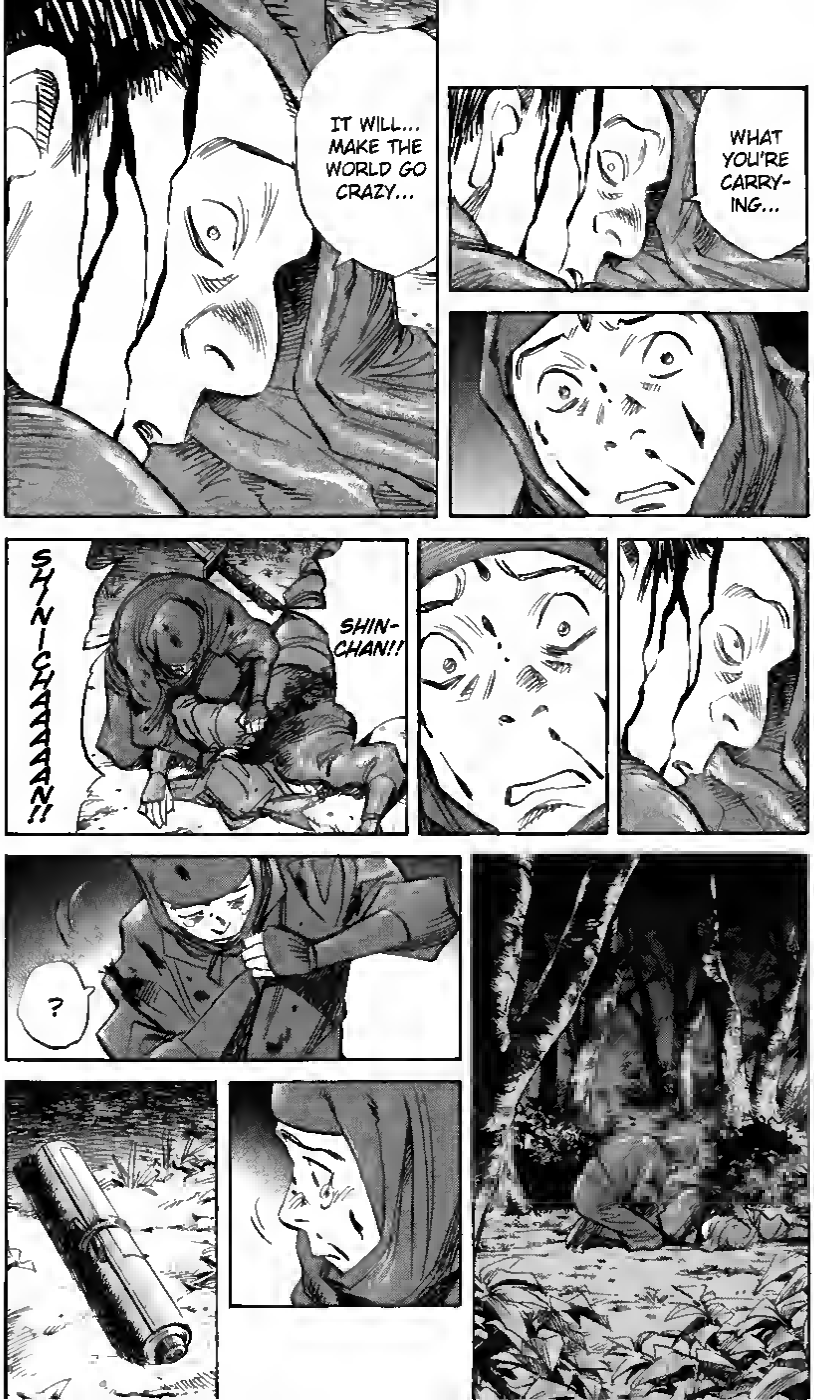

!!
Ka sa..
KAN
ZAZAZAH


ALRIGHT, HE'S WOUNDED!!
THIS IS IT!!
BOA
BOA
NO MATTER HOW FAST HE MOVES, I CAN FIND OUT WHERE HE IS BY THE STENCH OF HIS BLOOD!!
I KNOW YOU'RE HERE!!
THERE!!

エ!!
TIME TO FINISH YOU OFF!!
!!

EHH !?
YOU REALLY ARE FAST, KAN-CHAN.
WHAT ...

WHY IS FUJIBAYASHI... SHIN-CHAN...
Haa
Haa
SHIN-CHAN...
Haa
Haa
LEAVING US WITH NO IDEA AS TO WHO IS OUR ENEMY AND WHO IS OUR ALLY.
BURN IT UP...
EH ...?
SHIN-CHAN!! YOU'RE FROM IGA, JUST LIKE ME...


IT WILL... MAKE THE WORLD GO CRAZY...
WHAT YOU'RE CARRY-ING...
SHINICHAAAAN!!
SHIN-CHAN!!
?

MAKE THE WORLD ...
GO CRAZY ...?
AHHH, SO IT'S ALREADY BEGUN...

HOW MANY DEATHS WILL IT TAKE TO FINISH THINGS?
Gyuu
WH...
WHAT WAS THAT ...?

BILLY BAT 2

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